

# Francis Marion University



## *Student Handbook 2008-2009*

**This book belongs to:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

### *ATTENTION INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES*

*Effort will be made to ensure that programs and classes will be accessible to individuals with disabilities. If you require assistance relating to a disability, please contact the Office of Counseling and Testing (843-661-1840) at least 10 days prior to the beginning of the semester.*

### *EQUAL OPPORTUNITY*

*Francis Marion University offers equal opportunity, admission and educational activities, in compliance with federally-mandated civil rights legislation and corresponding State of South Carolina legislation.*

# PREFACE

Greetings! Your Student Handbook contains valuable information that will assist you while a student at FMU. You will find information regarding just about everything outside of classes at the University, as well as additional material about the academic programs.

The only limitation of the Student Handbook is if you do not take the time to read it! Take a few minutes each day to read the material to become a better-informed campus citizen. Students who read the Student Handbook tend to make better grades, are more involved, have a better experience, and feel more a part of the institution. You should also be aware that the Student Handbook is part of your contract with the University. By attending Francis Marion University, you agree to be bound by the policies and procedures described in the handbook. Please read it to know what your rights and responsibilities are.

If you have any questions regarding material in this handbook, please call the Dean of Students Office at 843-661-1182.

# WELCOME FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT

Welcome to Francis Marion University. Whether you are a new or returning student, the staff members in the Division of Student Affairs are excited about your choice to be part of the FMU community, as well as the opportunity to provide encouragement, support, and services that may assist you during your time here.



The FMU Student Handbook can be an important part of your success in college life. In this handbook, you will find numerous references to campus resources designed to enhance your experience in the University setting. Equally as important are the campus policies and procedures that are published in various sections of the handbook. As a member of the FMU community, all students are expected to become familiar with and adhere to the guidelines, policies, and procedures contained in this handbook and other official University publications.

I encourage each student to become positively involved in the campus community. Whether your involvement is through a student organization, campus job, or a student-faculty research project, it is important that you make connections with the University through meaningful, positive methods. Staff members in the Division of Student Affairs are able to assist you in this, as well as provide information about the campus community. Your participation in activities with faculty, staff, and fellow students is necessary for you to maximize the level of success you experience at FMU.

Congratulations on having chosen FMU, and best wishes during the coming year.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Darryl Bridges".

Darryl Bridges  
Vice President for Student Affairs

# WELCOME FROM THE SGA PRESIDENT

Dear Student,

Welcome to Francis Marion University!

As the SGA president, I'd like to welcome all incoming freshmen and returning students to Francis Marion University and to the Student Government Association. Upon enrollment at FMU, you become a member of the SGA, which represents the students by addressing any concerns or suggestions pertaining to our campus. Specifically, for the new students, I hope you understand that you are now entering into a new arena of life where responsibilities are greater and peer-pressures are doubled. I strongly encourage your participation in all aspects of student life at Francis Marion. It is also important to socialize among your peers and to become familiar with the University, including its policies, programs, and events that are held by organizations to which you now have access.



I challenge students to be a source of encouragement and caretakers for one another. I also challenge you to take action on this campus, to use all of the available resources, such as the academic computer center and the Rogers Library to increase your level of success.

Remember my fellow patriots, you are here for a superb education; the best this state has to offer. I wish you success in your future both here at FMU and with your future endeavors in life as well. Remember that much of what happens in your life is determined by where you spend your time, who you keep company with, and what you feed your mind. Lastly, Patriots, get involved, encourage your peers, take action when prompted to do so and know that your future begins today.

Sincerely,

A stylized, handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Todd R. Davis'.

Todd R. Davis  
SGA President

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# UNIVERSITY CALENDAR

## FALL SEMESTER 2008

<b>Aug. 4</b>	<b>Final date for pre-registered students to pay fees for Fall; final payment for Fall housing due</b>
<b>Aug. 7</b>	New Student Orientation
<b>Aug. 5-18</b>	Continuous registration for Fall semester for currently enrolled students; payment is due at the time of registration
<b>Aug. 16</b>	Housing opens for new students
<b>Aug. 17</b>	Housing opens for continuing students
<b>Aug. 18</b>	Registration for new and continuing students
<b>Aug. 19-26</b>	Drop/Add and Late Registration (\$25 late fee)
<b>Aug. 20</b>	Fall classes begin
<b>Sept. 1</b>	Labor Day; University open; classes held
<b>Sept. 12</b>	Last day to withdraw from a course without academic penalty
<b>Sept. 17</b>	<b>Deadline for students to have FMU Card made (Rogers Library); \$15 late charge</b>
<b>Oct. 1</b>	Last day to apply for graduation for Fall semester
<b>Oct. 8</b>	Midterm
<b>Oct. 15</b>	Midterm grades due for first-time freshmen
<b>Oct. 22-31</b>	Advising Period and Priority Pre-registration for Spring semester
<b>Nov. 3</b>	Fall Break; no classes; University open
<b>Nov. 4</b>	Fall Break; no classes; University closed
<b>Nov. 5</b>	Classes resume
<b>Nov. 14</b>	Last day to withdraw from an undergraduate course
<b>Nov. 26</b>	Thanksgiving holidays; all classes end at 12:30 p.m.
<b>Nov. 27-28</b>	University closed for Thanksgiving holiday
<b>Dec. 1</b>	Fall classes end
<b>Dec. 2</b>	Reading Day
<b>Dec. 3</b>	Exams begin
<b>Dec. 8</b>	Grades due for graduating seniors by noon
<b>Dec. 9</b>	Exams end
<b>Dec. 10</b>	Final grades due by noon
<b>Dec. 12</b>	2:30 p.m. – Commencement Rehearsal
<b>Dec. 13</b>	10 a.m. – Commencement Exercises

## SPRING SEMESTER, 2009

<b>Dec. 8</b>	<b>Final date for pre-registered students to pay fees for Spring; all financial assistance requirements must be met; final payment for semester housing due</b>
<b>Dec. 9-Jan. 8</b>	Continuous registration for Spring semester for currently enrolled students; payment is due at the time of registration
<b>Jan. 11</b>	Housing opens for new students and continuing students
<b>Jan. 12</b>	Orientation and registration for Spring semester for new and continuing students; payment is due time of registration
<b>Jan. 13</b>	Spring classes begin
<b>Jan. 19</b>	Martin Luther King Jr. holiday; University closed
<b>Jan. 30</b>	<b>Deadline for new students to have FMU Card made (Rogers Library); \$15 late charge after this date</b>
<b>Feb. 10</b>	Multicultural Honors Awards
<b>Feb. 12</b>	Last day to withdraw from a course without academic penalty
<b>Feb. 27</b>	Last day to apply for graduation for Spring semester
<b>Mar. 4</b>	Midterm
<b>Mar. 16-20</b>	Spring Break
<b>Mar. 23</b>	Classes resume
<b>Mar. 25-Apr. 3</b>	Advising Period and Priority Pre-registration – Fall semester and Summer Terms
<b>Mar. 31</b>	Priority deadline for housing applications and deposit for Fall semester
<b>April 10</b>	Last day to withdraw from an undergraduate course
<b>April 13</b>	Academic Awards
<b>April 14</b>	Student Life Awards
<b>April 27</b>	Spring classes end
<b>April 28</b>	Reading Day
<b>April 29</b>	Exams begin
<b>May 4</b>	Grades due for graduating seniors by noon
<b>May 5</b>	Exams end
<b>May 6</b>	Final grades due by noon
<b>May 8</b>	2:30 p.m. – Commencement Rehearsal
<b>May 9</b>	10 a.m. – Commencement Exercises

## LATE SPRING TERM, SUMMER SESSION, 2009

<b>Mar. 25-May 1</b>	Pre-registration for Late Spring for currently enrolled students
<b>May 1</b>	<b>Final date for pre-registered students to pay fees for Late Spring</b>



<b>May 4-11</b>	Continuous registration for Late Spring Term for currently enrolled students; payment is due at the time of registration
<b>May 11</b>	Registration for Late Spring for new and continuing students
<b>May 12</b>	Late Spring classes begin
<b>May 19</b>	Last day to withdraw from a course without penalty
<b>May 25</b>	Last day to withdraw from an undergraduate course
<b>May 9</b>	Late Spring classes end; examinations

### **FIRST TERM, SUMMER SESSION, 2009**

<b>Mar. 25-May 25</b>	Pre-registration for Summer I for currently enrolled students
<b>May 25</b>	<b>Final date for pre-registered students to pay fees for Summer I</b>
<b>May 26-June 2</b>	Continuous registration for Summer I Term for currently enrolled students; payment is due at the time of registration
<b>June 2</b>	Registration for Summer I for new and continuing students
<b>June 3</b>	Summer I classes begin
<b>June 10</b>	Last day to apply for degree for students completing degree during either summer term
<b>June 18</b>	Last day to withdraw from a course without academic penalty
<b>June 25</b>	Last day to withdraw from an undergraduate course
<b>July 3</b>	Holiday; University closed; no classes
<b>July 7</b>	Summer I classes end; examinations

### **SECOND TERM, SUMMER SESSION, 2009**

<b>Mar. 25-July 2</b>	Pre-registration for Summer II for currently enrolled students
<b>July 2</b>	<b>Final day for pre-registered students to pay fees for Summer II</b>
<b>July 3</b>	Holiday; University closed; no classes
<b>July 3-9</b>	Continuous registration for Summer II Term for currently enrolled students; payment is due at the time of registration
<b>July 9</b>	Registration for Summer II for new and continuing students
<b>July 13</b>	Summer II classes begin
<b>July 28</b>	Last day to withdraw from a course without academic penalty
<b>Aug. 4</b>	Last day to withdraw from an undergraduate course
<b>Aug. 13</b>	Summer II classes end; examinations

# ABOUT FMU

## The University

Founded in 1970, Francis Marion University is one of South Carolina's 13 state-supported, coeducational universities. Classified by the Carnegie Foundation for Education as a comprehensive university, FMU takes pride in providing a strong liberal arts foundation in a broad range of undergraduate majors. The University also offers two professional schools in education and business. FMU offers a bachelor's degree program in nursing. At the graduate level, FMU offers programs in business, education and psychology. The School of Business offers the MBA with a concentration in health management.

While 95 percent of its 3,900 students come from South Carolina, the University enrolls students from 32 states and 16 foreign countries, allowing students to experience the diversity of people from other cultures. FMU has an outstanding faculty of 249 professors – 202 who are full-time. Nearly 80 percent of full-time faculty members hold doctoral or terminal degrees from America's leading universities, and 48 percent of the faculty are tenured. The student-faculty ratio is 15 to 1, and classes are taught by professors, not graduate assistants. The average class size is 22.

FMU has the look and feel of a small, liberal arts college with all the benefits of a state-supported, comprehensive university. FMU offers an excellent learning environment, small enough to afford students personalized attention from faculty and staff, and large enough to let students expand their intellectual curiosities.

The University is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS), and a number of its departments or programs are accredited by specialized accrediting agencies.

Located about seven miles east of Florence, the 400-acre campus is known for its beautiful foliage and landscaping. The campus features modern classroom buildings, laboratories and residence facilities to provide a safe, comfortable learning environment for students. The campus also features a number of recreational facilities that are available for use by students, faculty, staff and alumni, and for use in intramural and intercollegiate athletic competition. These facilities are set amongst 100 acres of mixed pine-hardwood and bottomland forests accessed by a series of trails. Several acres have been set aside as an Arboretum that is being developed into a resource with many of the native species of the area.

Most buildings have been constructed or renovated since 1970. Facilities are accessible in accordance with required standards. Though each building has its own unique design, all are planned for architectural harmony.

One of the busiest places on campus is James A. Rogers Library, the state's sixth largest academic library and the largest academic library in northeastern South Carolina. It serves as a valuable resource for individual citizens, business and industry for the entire region. It houses nearly 400,000 volumes, 1,600 current subscriptions, 500,000 microforms, access to more than 21,000 full-text journals, more than 10,000 electronic books and 60 electronic databases to access information from almost anywhere.

The University offers to the community educational lectures, technical and professional assistance, industrial and economic development and artistic and cultural enrichment. Many cultural activities, including concerts, lectures, plays, art exhibits and film series, are offered free to the public. FMU also hosts two of the region's largest festivals - the Art's Alive Festival in the spring and the Pee Dee International Festival in the fall.

The FMU Alumni Association has more than 16,000 members with more than half living and working in the Pee Dee area. Private support comes from the FMU Foundation, which was organized in 1974 to provide a means for soliciting and accepting substantial gifts of money or property to build an endowment fund that promotes the educational mission and welfare of the University. Its primary focus has been to provide scholarship support for students. The FMU Foundation is governed by an independent volunteer board of directors and currently has approximately \$19 million in assets.

## The Community

Francis Marion University is located just east of the city of Florence in the beautiful northeastern section of South Carolina. Florence is a regional hub of commerce, agriculture and industry for what is known as the Pee Dee region of South Carolina, an eight-county area. The greater Florence area is a thriving center of 125,000 people, while more than 675,000 people currently live within a 50-mile radius of the city. Florence is about 80 miles from the state capital of Columbia, 70 miles from the shores of Myrtle Beach, and the mountains of the Carolinas are only a three-hour drive to the northwest.

FMU is named in honor of South Carolina's Revolutionary War hero, General Francis Marion, who was nicknamed the "Swamp Fox," for using the terrain to outfox the British. General Marion's work in disrupting British communications and preventing the organization of the Loyalists from participating fully in the battle of King's Mountain, along with other assaults and skirmishes, helped to turn the tide of the Revolutionary War in the South. General Marion and his troops regularly roamed the "Pee Dee" area swamps. Snow Island, near Johnsonville, S.C., close to where the Pee Dee and Lynches Rivers converge, was home of the hero's hideout.

## History

Francis Marion University was founded in 1970 in response to an overwhelming need for a public higher education institution in the Pee Dee region of South Carolina. However, the University can trace its history to 1957 when the University of South Carolina established the “freshman center” at the Florence County Library. In 1961, a permanent campus for USC-Florence was established seven miles east of Florence on land donated by the Wallace family, the current location of FMU. By 1966, enrollment at USC-F had reached 350, and community leaders began a movement to establish a four-year institution to better meet the educational needs of the area. Following a Commission on Higher Education recommendation, Gov. Robert E. McNair signed into law an act creating Francis Marion College, effective July 1, 1970. The institution gained University status in 1992.

The institution has had four presidents:

Dr. Walter D. Smith (1969 to 1983)

Dr. Thomas C. Stanton (1983 to 1994)

Dr. Lee A. Vickers (1994 to 1999)

Dr. Luther F. Carter (1999 to present)

## Admission to the University

To be admitted as a freshman at FMU, students must submit a completed application and non-refundable \$30 application fee. Students must also submit official transcripts of high school work and SAT or ACT test scores. Francis Marion University also requires the completion of 20 units of high school core courses to be admitted. Students who have outstanding academic records are encouraged to apply.

In evaluating applications, the University considers high school records, including core courses and overall GPA, and SAT or ACT scores.

Transfer applicants are required to have a minimum of 22 transferable hours with at least a 2.0 GPA in order to be admitted. Students who are interested in transferring should submit transcripts from each college attended as well as high school transcripts to the Admissions Office. Students who have fewer than 22 transferable hours will be considered for admission as freshmen, and, in addition to meeting freshman requirements, must have attained at least a C average in their postsecondary work, as indicated by official transcripts.

# Academic Programs

## Undergraduate Degree Programs

Accounting  
Art Education  
Biology – General  
Biology – Environmental Science Option  
Biology – Medical Technology Option  
Business (General)  
Business Economics  
Chemistry – General  
Chemistry – Environmental Science Option  
Computer Science  
Early Childhood Education  
Economics  
Elementary Education  
English – Professional Writing Track  
English – Liberal Arts Track  
English – Teacher Certification Option  
Finance  
General Studies  
History – General  
History – Teacher Certification Option  
International Studies  
Management  
Management Information Systems  
Marketing  
Mass Communication – Broadcast Journalism Specialty  
Mass Communication – Convergence  
Mass Communication – Print Journalism Specialty  
Mass Communication – Public Relations Specialty  
Mathematics – Mathematical Sciences Option  
Mathematics – Teacher Certification Option  
Middle Level Education  
Modern Languages – French Track  
Modern Languages – German Track  
Modern Languages – Spanish Track  
Music Industry  
Nursing – BSN Basic Track  
Nursing – RN to BSN Track  
Physics – Computational Physics Concentration  
Physics – Environmental Science Option  
Physics – Health Physics Concentration  
Political Science – Criminal Justice Concentration  
Political Science – General  
Political Science – Teacher Certification Option  
Psychology  
Social Science – Secondary Education Certification  
**pending approval**  
Sociology – Criminal Justice Concentration  
Sociology – General

Sociology – Teacher Certification Option  
Theatre Arts – Design Specialty  
Theatre Arts – Performance Specialty  
Visual Arts – Ceramics Specialty  
Visual Arts – Graphic Design Specialty  
Visual Arts – Painting Specialty  
Visual Arts – Photography Specialty

## Cooperative Degree Programs

*Degrees earned at FMU:*

Civil Engineering Technology  
(with South Carolina Technical Colleges)  
Electronic Engineering Technology  
(with South Carolina Technical Colleges)  
Medical Technology  
(with McLeod Regional Medical Center)  
Military Science: Army Reserve Officers Training Corps (ROTC)

*Degrees earned at other institutions:*

Aquaculture, Fisheries & Wildlife Biology  
(with Clemson)  
Engineering – Dual Degree (with Clemson)  
Forest Management (with Clemson)

## Pre-Professional Programs

Pre-dental  
Pre-engineering  
Pre-law  
Pre-medical  
Pre-pharmacy  
Pre-veterinary

## Graduate Programs

Business Administration  
Business Administration – Health Administration Concentration (with MUSC)  
Early Childhood Education  
Instructional Accommodation  
Learning Disabilities  
Psychology – Clinical/Counseling Option  
Psychology – School Psychology Option

## University Seal

The University Seal is symbolic of the location, founding, and purpose of the University.

The river at the center of the design represents the Pee Dee area of South Carolina.

The Palmetto tree symbolizes the University's role in joining the ranks of other colleges and universities offering educational opportunities to students throughout South Carolina.

The open book represents the intent of the University to create an atmosphere of free inquiry and to direct its programs toward all qualified students who would achieve some master of knowledge.

## Alma Mater

The Francis Marion University Alma Mater is set to the melody of Chester by William Billings. It was the favorite song of Revolutionary War soldiers and, except for Yankee Doodle, the only famous Revolutionary War tune of American origin. It may well have been sung by our earliest Patriots on these very grounds. The writer of the words to the Alma Mater prefers to remain anonymous.

On hallowed ground where patriots waged their strife,  
Here yet today we seek to earn our freedom's rights.  
Our knowledge leads to a quest for truth and light,  
By achieving goals we discover purpose for our lives.

Our future shines before us bright and clear.  
You give to us the wisdom and the guidance here.  
We'll build a world for all to revere,  
Our thanks is due to you, our Alma Mater dear.

# ACADEMIC SERVICES

## ADMISSIONS

The primary functions of the Office of Admissions at Francis Marion University are to recruit and admit new students and assist students in the application and enrollment process. The Admissions Office is also committed to providing development opportunities for students even after they enroll. Students can develop personal skills in organization, marketing, public speaking, and leadership through involvement in the Diplomats (student ambassador) program. A select group of students is chosen each fall on the basis of scholarship, leadership, and communication skills. Diplomats help recruit students to FMU through counseling, presentations to students, campus tours, involvement with special events such as Open Houses, scholarship receptions, and counselor luncheons. Diplomats will participate in a training program to enhance their knowledge of FMU. The program also includes presentation skills, interpersonal skills, and other skills to enhance personal growth and professional development. Students who are interested in giving campus tours, making presentations, calling prospective students, office management and working with marketing materials to assist in recruiting may apply to the Admissions Office. Student assistants are trained appropriately.

Campus tours and information sessions are provided Monday through Friday at 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. from Sept. 1 to May 31. Tours are also offered on select Saturdays of most months. From June 1 until Aug. 30, tours are offered Monday through Thursday at 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. and on Fridays at 9 a.m. Appointments should be made for all tours. The office welcomes student involvement and strives for continuous improvement. If you have suggestions or ideas that will help the Admissions Office serve potential and current students better, please let us know.

## Residency Requirements

State law defines South Carolina residents as “persons who have been domiciled in South Carolina for a period no less than 12 months with an intention of making a permanent home therein or persons domiciled in South Carolina for less than 12 months who have full-time employment in the state and the spouse and unemancipated minors of such persons.”

**Residency Requirements:** The legal residence of a minor is considered to be that of the parent who has legal custody. Questions concerning residency should be directed to the Office of Admissions.

Students from certain states in Germany may qualify to pay in-state tuition through the Sister-State agreement. States included in the agree-

ment are Brandenburg, Rheinland-Pfalz, and Thuringen. Certain areas in Australia also qualify. Questions concerning the Sister-State agreement should be directed to Admissions.

## ORIENTATION

Francis Marion University recognizes that the choice to attend college is one of the most important decisions a person can make. The University also recognizes that this decision has an impact upon a student's entire family. In response to this unique time in the life of a student and his/her family, parents and/or guardians are encouraged to attend FMU's Orientation Program with their students. Each program includes information regarding academic advising and registration. Students and their families have an opportunity to meet with faculty, staff, and students during Orientation. Information sessions are also provided to assist students as they prepare for the transition from high school to college. The Orientation Program is required for all new freshmen and transfer students, and there is a fee for participating.

## PROVISIONAL ADMISSION

The Office of Orientation and Provisional Programs serves students with diverse levels of academic preparation and abilities by utilizing specialized programs and support services to ensure academic success combined with adequate and appropriate academic advising.

There are two types of Provisional Admission to the University. They are:

1. **Course Deficiency:** First-time freshmen who are missing one required high school course, provided it is not in English or math, may be admitted to the University on a provisional basis. Students must successfully complete a college course in the area in which they are deficient during the summer session prior to their first semester of enrollment or during their first year of attendance. Students missing more than one required course will not be admitted.
2. Students may also be admitted through the Admissions Appeals process. Students who are denied admission to the University must write a letter of appeal to the Admissions committee. The committee meets several times during a semester.

## PROVOST

The Office of the Provost (chief academic officer of the University) is responsible for generating and mailing the Dean's List and President's List to eligible recipients each fall and spring semester.



## President's List

Any full-time undergraduate student who attains a grade point average of 3.75 or higher in a given semester shall be recognized as exceptional and placed on the President's List. Any part-time undergraduate student who has completed at least 12 hours at Francis Marion University and who has declared a major shall be placed on the President's List for part-time students at the end of any semester in which the student has completed at least six semester hours and in which the student has attained a grade point average of 3.75 or higher.

## Dean's List

Any full-time undergraduate student who attains a grade point average of at least 3.25 but less than 3.75 in a given semester shall be recognized as distinguished and placed on the Dean's List. Any part-time undergraduate student who has completed at least 12 hours at Francis Marion University and who has declared a major shall be placed on the Dean's List for part-time students at the end of any semester in which the student has completed at least six semester hours and in which the student has attained a grade point average of at least 3.25 but less than 3.75.

## REGISTRAR

The Office of the Registrar is the location in which all academic records of the University are kept. In addition to record keeping, the Office of the Registrar is in charge of the following programs, activities, and policies.

## Honor Graduates

Any student who completes degree requirements with a grade point average on all work from 3.50 to 3.74 shall be granted his or her diploma cum laude. Any student who completes degree requirements with a grade point average of 3.75 to 3.89 shall be granted his or her diploma magna cum laude. Any student who completes degree requirements with a grade point average of 3.90 or higher shall be granted his or her diploma summa cum laude.

In order for a student who has credits transferred from another institution to receive his diploma cum laude, magna cum laude or summa cum laude, he or she must have attained the required grade point average on all work taken at Francis Marion University and attained the required grade point average on all University work, including that taken at other institutions. To be considered for honors, a student must complete a minimum of 60 credit hours at FMU.

## Change of Name or Address

Each student is responsible for maintaining communication with the University and keeping on file with the Office of the Registrar at all

times any change in name and current address, including zip code and telephone number. Failure to do so can cause serious delays in the handling of student records and important correspondence. Information regarding advising and pre-registration will be mailed to the local address for those students who are currently enrolled. Because of its nature and purpose, campus housing may not be regarded as a student's permanent home address.

## **FERPA/Directory Information**

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) of 1974 permits the release of "directory information" without a student's consent.

Francis Marion University has designated the following items as directory information: student's name, address, telephone listing, date and place of birth, photograph, major field of study, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, weight and height of members of athletic teams, dates of attendance, degrees and awards received, most recent previous educational institution attended, and eligibility for honor societies.

Directory information can be published in a campus directory and other University publications and may be released to the mass media for publication (for example, Dean's List, President's List, commencement list, etc.). A student who does not want this information released must make a request in writing to the Office of the Registrar within two weeks after the first day of class. The request for non-disclosure must be filed each term of enrollment.

## **What Constitutes a Student Record**

Student records are those created to assist the offices of Admissions, Financial Assistance, Records, the Registrar, or Student Affairs in their support of basic institutional objectives and include any records with students' names (files, documents, and materials in whatever medium) which contain information that identifies a person.

## **Disclosure of Educational Record Information**

1. Francis Marion University shall obtain written consent from students before disclosing any personally identifiable information from their educational records (with the exceptions listed below). Such written consent must:
  - a. specify the records to be released.
  - b. state the purpose of the disclosure.
  - c. identify the party or class of parties to whom disclosure may be made.
  - d. be signed and dated by the student.
2. Francis Marion University must disclose educational records or

components thereof to students who request information from their own records.

3. Francis Marion University may disclose educational records or components thereof without written consent of students to:
  - a. Authorized representatives of the following for audit or evaluation of federal and state supported programs, or for enforcement of or compliance with federal legal requirements which relate to those programs.
  - b. State and local officials to whom disclosure is specifically required by State Statute adopted prior to Nov. 19, 1974.
  - c. Veterans Administration officials.
  - d. Other school officials within the institution determined by the institution to have a legitimate educational interest.
  - e. Officials of other institutions in which a student seeks or intends to enroll on the condition that Francis Marion University makes a reasonable attempt to inform the student of the disclosure.
  - f. Persons or organizations providing financial aid to students, or determining financial aid decisions concerning eligibility, amount, condition, and enforcement of terms of said aid.
  - g. Organizations conducting studies for, or on behalf of, educational agencies or institutions to develop, validate, and administer predictive tests, to administer student aid programs or to improve instruction. Those organizations may not disclose personally identifiable information on students, and information secured must be destroyed when no longer needed for their projects.
  - h. Accrediting organizations carrying out their accrediting functions.
  - i. Parents of a student who have established that student's status as a dependent according to Internal Revenue Code of 1954, Section 152.
  - j. Persons in compliance with a judicial order or a lawfully issued subpoena, provided that Francis Marion University makes a reasonable attempt to notify the student in advance of compliance. Francis Marion University is not required to notify the student if a federal grand jury subpoena, or any other subpoena issued for a law enforcement purpose, orders Francis Marion not to disclose the existence or contents of the subpoena.
  - k. Persons in an emergency, if the knowledge of information, in fact, is necessary to protect the health or safety of students or other persons.
  - l. An alleged victim of any crime of violence of the results of any institutional disciplinary proceeding against the alleged perpetrator of that crime with respect to that crime.
  - m. Parents of a student under the age of 21 who is found in

violation of the University Alcohol and Other Drug Policy (in accordance with federal law).

4. Francis Marion University may release without written consent those items specified as public or directory information for students who are currently enrolled, provided the following conditions are met prior to disclosure:
  - a. Francis Marion University informs the students of information or categories designated as public or directory information.
  - b. the students be given the opportunity to refuse disclosures of information for any or all categories of directory information.
  - c. the students be given a reasonable period of time in which to state such refusals in writing.
5. Francis Marion University may release without written consent those items designated as public or directory information on any student not currently enrolled unless that student, at his/her last opportunity as a student, requested otherwise.
6. Francis Marion University may also disclose personally identifiable information from a student's educational records to a third party if the eligible student has signed and dated a written consent form which is presented to a school official by the third party.
7. Francis Marion University is responsible for informing parties to whom personally identifiable information is released that recipients, as a general rule, are not permitted to disclose the information to others without the written consent of the students. An example of such wording follows:  
 "The attached information has been forwarded to you at the request of the student with the understanding that it will not be released to other parties. The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, as amended, prohibits release of this information without the student's written consent. Please return this material to us if you are unable to comply with this condition of release."
8. Terms under which Francis Marion University may disclose information to parents of students are:
  - a. by obtaining the student's written consent if the student is independent.
  - b. by establishing the student's dependency as defined by Internal Revenue Code of 1954, Section 152.

## **Social Security Number/ Student Identification Number**

The Privacy Act of 1974 (U.S. Public Law 93-579, Sect.7) requires that we notify students that disclosure of their social security number

(SSN) is voluntary. But students should know that Francis Marion University uses the SSN as their student identification number and all University records are kept using this number for identification. The Swamp Fox Web for Students (on-line registration) system requires students to enter their SSN and a password for entry. If students do not wish to disclose their SSN, they can apply for a special identification number in person in the Registrar's Office, Stokes Administration Building room 118.

## Parental Notification of Alcohol Policy Violations

In accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, Francis Marion University has the right to notify parents or legal guardians of a student under the age of 21 years who has been involved in a violation of University policy, local, state or federal law governing the use or possession of alcohol or controlled substances. Notification is dependant upon the situation and at the discretion of the sanctioning body.

## Privacy Rights of Students

Students have the right to:

- a. Inspect and review information contained in the student's educational records.
- b. Request the amendment of the student's educational records to ensure that they are not inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy or other rights.
- c. Consent to disclosure, with certain exceptions specified in the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA), of personally identifiable information from educational records.
- d. May secure a copy of Francis Marion University's policy on student's educational records by making the request at the Registrar's Office. All student records are maintained in the Registrar's Office located in the Stokes Administration Building.
- e. May file complaints with the Department of Education concerning alleged failures by Francis Marion University to comply with the Privacy Act. Written complaints should be directed to The Family Policy Compliance Office, U.S. Department of Education, 600 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20202-4605; 202-260-3887, FAX: 202-260-9001.

## Review of Academic Records

Students have the right to inspect and review information contained in their educational records. Students wishing to review their records must make a written request to the Registrar listing the item or items of interest. These records will be made available within 45 days of the request. The written institutional policy concerning the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act is housed in the Registrar's Office.

## Commencement Announcements

Announcements for Commencement Exercises may be ordered through the Patriot Bookstore but not before the semester during which degree requirements are expected to be completed. No order may be processed until after the date for applying for degree is prescribed by the University calendar. If, at the Registrar's instruction, an order is not processed, full refund will be made by the Patriot Bookstore.

## Application for Degree

**Undergraduate students:** All undergraduate students must complete a graduation application in order to be considered a graduation candidate. Degree applications are available in the Registrar's Office, room 118, Stokes Administration Building.

**Graduate students:** All graduate students must complete a graduation application in order to be considered a graduate candidate. Degree applications are available in the department of the student's major.

Undergraduate and graduate students must complete an application for degree on or before the following deadlines: For the December graduation, the last day to apply for graduation is October 1; for the May graduation, the last day to apply for graduation is March 1; and for the August graduation, the last day to apply for graduation is June 10.

In the event that degree requirements are not met, reapplication for graduation is necessary. Only students who have completed all degree requirements may participate in the commencement exercises.

## Veterans' Affairs

All veterans should contact the Registrar's Office for assistance with Veterans' Affairs issues.

## University Life

The University Life program at Francis Marion University is designed to help entering students learn the necessary academic, cultural, social, and technological skills needed to succeed in the University environment. Classes in the program are taught in sections by specially trained faculty from all areas of the University. Other first-semester students may enroll in the course, receiving elective credit but not General Education credit, on a first-come, first-served basis.

# FINANCIAL & BUSINESS SERVICES

## FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

It is recognized that the costs of higher education are a significant addition to one's budget. The mission of the Office of Financial Assistance is to provide access and retention opportunities for students choosing to pursue a course of study at Francis Marion University. This is met by (1) providing information services to prospective students and their families, (2) assisting students and their families in the financial assistance application process, (3) determining eligibility for assistance and making financial assistance awards, and (4) facilitating the timely delivery of financial assistance proceeds to students.

General program descriptions and application information can be found in the University Catalog. More detailed information is available by contacting the Office of Financial Assistance or by visiting our website at [www.fmarion.edu](http://www.fmarion.edu).

## ACCOUNTING/CASHIER

The Accounting and Cashier's Offices can assist you with questions about your semester or monthly bills, FMU card, financial assistance check, and other financial matters. We also will help you with registering your vehicle and with scholarships from outside organizations. Following are some of the many services we provide to students:

### Check Cashing

FMU students with valid FMU cards may cash personal checks for up to \$50 in the Cashier's Office. The information on the check must include a local street address. There is a \$30 charge for dishonored checks.

### Payroll Checks

Students who are employed by FMU may pick up payroll checks in the Cashier's Office according to the payroll schedule. Schedules are distributed at the beginning of each year by the Office of Telecommunications, Payroll and Inventory. Students must present a valid FMU card before checks will be released or cashed. FMU, Sodexo (Dining Services), Capstone (Housing), and Follett (Bookstore) payroll checks for students living on campus may be cashed in the Cashier's Office.

### Semester Bills

The Accounting Office mails Fall and Spring semester bills along

with registration instructions to pre-registered students' home addresses approximately four weeks prior to the beginning of the term. Please pay close attention to the payment deadlines in the registration instructions. An electronic bill for the semester may be viewed once a student is registered in classes for the semester. The fall semester cannot be viewed until fees are determined by the Board of Trustees, usually in mid-July.

## **Monthly Statements**

The Accounting Office mails a statement of charges around the 15th each month to currently enrolled students who owe balances. The statements are mailed to students' home addresses.

## **Refund or "Change" Checks**

Refunds that result from dropping a course, withdrawing, or overpayments and change checks from excess financial assistance are processed by the Accounting Office. Students with valid FMU cards may pick up their checks in the Cashier's Office. Students who have direct deposit will have their funds deposited electronically into their designated bank account. Emails are sent to students who have valid addresses on record each time a check or direct deposit is processed for them. If checks are not picked up within a week, they are mailed to students' home addresses. For Housing and Dining refunds, please refer to the contract and terms periods section of this Handbook.

## **Traffic Ticket Appeals**

Students may appeal traffic violations within 14 calendar days of the date of the ticket in the Accounting or Cashier's Office. After 14 calendar days, the fine for the ticket doubles, and it cannot be appealed (see Campus Police section).

## **Outside Scholarship Credits**

The Accounting Office processes scholarship checks from civic organizations and industries for students.

## **Third Party Billings**

Civic organizations or industries who wish to pay for a student's fees and want to be billed may set up a third party billing account through the Accounting Office. A letter on company or organization letterhead including the student's name, social security number, amount of the award, and any stipulations must be submitted to the Accounting Office at least two weeks in advance of registration.

## **Vehicle Registration**

Any student who brings a vehicle on campus must register that vehicle and pay \$15 for a parking decal. Vehicles may be registered when paying semester bills or in the Cashier's Office during the semester. If



you live on campus, be sure to obtain a residential student decal which will allow you to park in housing areas (see Campus Police section). Students who change their residential status must exchange their decals with the Cashier's Office. Student decals expire on Aug. 31.

## **Temporary Parking Decals**

Students with valid decals who drive another vehicle on campus that does not have a decal must register the new vehicle in the Cashier's Office or Campus Police and receive a temporary decal. There is no charge for the temporary decal, and it is valid for up to 10 days (see Campus Police section). The person requesting a temporary decal must have a vehicle permanently registered on campus for the current semester.

## **Student Activity Travel**

When a student life activity involves travel by students, certain costs are reimbursable – meals and lodging, for example. In order to receive reimbursement, a travel request form should be picked up in the Accounting Office. Complete the form and attach all receipts, gather appropriate signatures through Student Life or an academic office, then the Accounting Office will process a check for the student.

## **Foreign Students' Tax Information**

Foreign students must report wages, scholarships, and waiver income to the Internal Revenue Service. The Accounting Office prepares 1042-S forms to report this income. For information about working on campus, please contact the Coordinator of International Student Affairs in the Smith University Center, room 205.

## **Students Tax Information**

As required by the Tax Relief Act of 1997, the Accounting Office mails 1098T forms to students' home addresses by the end of January each year. The Act also requires Francis Marion University to report this information to the Internal Revenue Service. The 1098T form contains billing and financial assistance information to help students and/or parents when determining their eligibility for the Hope Scholarship tax credit or the Lifetime Learning tax credit.

## **Perkins Loans**

If a student is awarded a Perkins Loan, he or she should contact the Perkins Loan Officer in the Accounting Office to complete the required documents. Any Perkins Loan borrower who drops below half time enrollment at FMU, graduates, or transfers should call 843-661-1125 to make an appointment to complete the required exit interview paperwork. Although repayment is managed by our billing provider, the FMU Perkins Loan Officer oversees the process throughout the life of the loan.

# ATHLETICS

## ATHLETICS

FMU is affiliated with the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) and is a charter member of the Peach Belt Conference (PBC). Two of the University's sports programs (men's golf and women's soccer) compete as NCAA Division I independents, while the other 10 programs compete in Division II Peach Belt Conference. Plans have been discussed to possibly move the entire athletic program to Division I membership in the next few years. The Peach Belt Conference consists of the following institutions: Armstrong Atlantic State University, Augusta State University, Clayton State University, Columbus State University, FMU, Georgia College & State University, Georgia Southwestern State University, Lander University, North Georgia College & State University, UNC Pembroke, and USC Aiken.

The Francis Marion University athletic teams are known as the Patriots, and the University colors are red, white, and blue. FMU offers 12 intercollegiate sports: women's basketball, cross country, tennis, soccer, softball, and volleyball and men's basketball, baseball, cross country, golf, tennis, and soccer.

For more information concerning individual teams and/or tryouts, contact individual coaches in the athletic department.

FMU students are admitted free to regular-season home sporting events with their FMU (ID) Card.

## Sports Information

The associate athletic director for media relations and marketing (sports information director) is responsible for communicating the story of Francis Marion University athletics to its various publics – on and off campus – by establishing and increasing awareness of University programs, policies, opportunities, goals, and achievements. Major functions include the areas of publications, sports information services, photography, and advertising marketing.

To provide consistent, accurate information to the mass media, the Sports Information Office serves as the University's centralized source of information. In order to coordinate the flow of information, the Sports Information Office has established uniform procedures in preparing and releasing statements and sports releases so that the media will receive an organized flow of information that is consistent in style, quality and content.

## Cheerleaders

The Francis Marion University Cheerleaders are known for their spirit and enthusiasm. Being selected as an FMU cheerleader requires that a

freshman candidate must have a 2.3 GPA and upperclass candidates must maintain a graduated scale GPA determined by the coach(es). The coach(es) hold open tryouts in the Fall semester of each year and freshmen are eligible to try out for the squad. In order to tryout, a candidate must have cheer, dance, jump and stunting experience. Tumbling is optional at this time.

The FMU Cheerleaders perform during the NCAA basketball season for the women's and men's teams. Cheering for a game consists of sideline chants and full half-time routines. Practices are maybe held three times a week in the evenings and at the beginning of each season once the squad has been selected. Two captains are chosen each season by the coach based on grade point average, leadership and seniority.

All announcements for the FMU cheerleading squad will be posted on the FMU Student Life website at [www.fmarion.edu/students](http://www.fmarion.edu/students), in the University newspaper and on all bulletin boards on campus.

### **NCAA Position on Gambling**

The NCAA opposes all forms of legal and illegal sports wagering. Sports wagering has the potential to undermine the integrity of sports contests and jeopardizes the welfare of student-athletes and the intercollegiate athletics community. Sports wagering demeans the competition and competitors alike by a message that is contrary to the purposes and meaning of "sport." Sports competition should be appreciated for the inherent benefits related to participation of student-athletes, coaches and institutions in fair contests, not the amount of money wagered on the outcome of the competition.

For these reasons, the NCAA membership has adopted specific rules prohibiting athletics department staff members and student-athletes from engaging in gambling activities as they relate to intercollegiate or professional sporting events.

## **STUDENT SERVICES**

### **STUDENT AFFAIRS**

The Office of Student Affairs consists of several offices which are listed independently in this and previous sections. These include the Dean of Students Office, Campus Recreation Services, Career Development, Counseling and Testing, Student Health Services, Multicultural and International Student Affairs, Student Activities and the University Center. The Vice President for Student Affairs supervises all aspects of the Office of Student Affairs, with assistance from the Dean of Students.

## DEAN OF STUDENTS OFFICE

The Dean of Students is responsible for providing leadership and oversight to several aspects of student life at FMU, including the Office of Student Activities, Campus Recreation Services, and Multicultural and International Student Affairs. Additionally, the Dean of Students administers the Student Disciplinary System (Judicial Affairs) and co-advises the Student Government Association. The Assistant Dean of Students provides support to the Dean with judicial affairs, SGA, crisis management, leadership development, and other special projects.

## CAMPUS RECREATION SERVICES

The Office of Campus Recreation Services (CRS) strives to enhance, among the members of the FMU community, fitness and wellness, knowledge, personal skills and enjoyment through a variety of programming options. CRS provides opportunities for a variety of activities that may contribute to individual physical fitness and wellness; opportunities for cooperative and competitive play activity in game and non-game form; and access to quality facilities, equipment and programs.

### Intramural Sports

The Intramural Program provides an extensive competitive sports program through a wide range of activities designed to meet the needs and desires of the majority of students.

Students, faculty and staff are invited to compete in individual, dual and team sports. Competition has been organized in several sports ranging from basketball and flag football to table tennis and billiards. Team and individual awards are given in each sport. The Intramural Handbook and list of rules are available on the FMU web page.

## UNIVERSITY CENTER & RECREATION FACILITIES

The coordinator of the Smith University Center (UC) manages the operations of the activity and meeting areas in the Smith University Center, the outdoor recreational pool, outdoor recreational facilities, and summer programs. Recreational and athletic facilities include a 3000-seat gymnasium (with two practice basketball courts available for recreational use), an eight-lane swimming pool with three diving boards, a sauna, four racquetball courts, locker rooms, game room with billiards and table tennis, and a fitness room with various exercise equipment.

Exterior recreational facilities include Kassab Tennis Courts (available when not in use by the FMU tennis team), an intramural activity field, outdoor basketball courts, outdoor sand volleyball court, and an outdoor recreational pool.

To use the University Center or other campus recreation facilities, students must be in possession of their valid FMU ID Card. Students

may host one guest in the recreation facilities. Guests must have positive identification, must register at the University Center Information Desk or upstairs in Room 205, be over 18 years of age, and abide by all University policies and procedures. Students are responsible for the actions of their guests.

Faculty and staff members may register for a family pass, allowing members of their immediate family living in the household (including full-time, dependent college students) to use the recreation facilities. The \$15 annual fee must be paid in the Accounting Office in Stokes Administration Building. The faculty or staff member will be issued the family pass(es) upon presentation of the paid receipt to the Office of Student Affairs or the Coordinator of the University Center in UC 205 during normal business hours.

A limited number of lockers are available for annual rental. Faculty, staff and students who are interested in renting a locker must apply at the Office of Student Affairs to confirm availability. Once availability has been confirmed, the renter must pay the annual fee at the Accounting Office in Stokes Administration Building and present the paid receipt at the Office of Student Affairs to receive their lock and assignment. The fee for annual locker rental is \$10, renewable in August. If a locker is not renewed by the renewal deadline, all items contained in it will be considered abandoned and the locker will be made available to other renters. Each renter will be provided a combination lock for use on the locker. Only University issued locks may be used; all other locks will be removed and discarded. Renters must maintain their locker in a sanitary condition that does not present a nuisance to other patrons. Faculty and staff members are issued lockers in the Faculty and Staff locker rooms; student lockers are available in the student locker rooms. First priority is given to renewing patrons; all other lockers are available on a first-come basis.

## Reserving space in the UC

The University Center is available for reservation by student organizations for meetings, gatherings or dances. Five meeting rooms, a commons area, and other spaces are available on a first-come, first-served basis. All reservations must be placed at least two weeks in advance to be considered. The following procedure is to be followed for reserving rooms:

1. Secure a Facilities Reservation Request form from the Dean of Students Office in room 205 of the UC. (Space reservation forms are also available for use of other University buildings.)
2. Complete the form. Request assistance, if necessary. To check the availability of space, please contact the Dean of Students Office.
3. Complete a Campus Service Request form if service other than the normal setup is needed. These forms also should be completed two weeks in advance.

4. If food is to be served, contact the Dining Services Director.
5. Confirmation of the room reservation will be made by the Coordinator of the University Center or the chairperson of the Space Committee.
6. Direct any questions to the Dean of Students Office (661-1182) or the Coordinator of the University Center (661-1189).

## UC hours of operation

Please note that these hours are subject to change. Please call 661-1189 for the most up-to-date information.

### Building Hours

Mon.-Thurs. ....	8 a.m. – 11 p.m.
Friday .....	8 a.m. – 10 p.m.
Saturday .....	10 a.m. – 10 p.m.
Sunday .....	1 p.m. – 10 p.m.

### Information Desk, Game Area, Gym, Fitness Room, Racquetball Courts

Mon.-Thurs. ....	11:30 a.m. – 10:30 p.m.
Friday .....	11:30 a.m. – 9:30 p.m.
Saturday .....	12 p.m. – 8 p.m.
Sunday .....	1 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

### Indoor Swimming Pool, Sauna

Mon.-Fri. ....	1 p.m. – 7 p.m.
Sat. and Sun. ....	1 p.m. – 5 p.m.

Please help us keep your University Center clean and place trash in the proper receptacles. Do not sit on, or place food and drink on the game tables. Do not jump or stand on the furniture. The University Center is a great place to relax, meet with friends and socialize.

## Outdoor Recreational Pool

The outdoor recreational pool is located in Freedom Field adjacent to the FMU Village Apartments. The primary purpose of the outdoor pool is for recreational use by members of the FMU community. The following policies and procedures have been developed to provide a safe and enjoyable environment that meets state and industry standards. The outdoor pool will generally open in mid-April and close mid-September. The opening and closing dates of the pool are subject to weather patterns. Inclement weather, staff availability, and other unforeseen issues may cause the daily schedule to be altered. A certified lifeguard must be on duty any time the pool is open and available for use.

The outdoor pool may be used by the students, faculty, and staff members of Francis Marion University. Additionally, active members of the FMU Alumni Association may use the pool. Students may host one guest in the pool area, who must be accompanied by the student at all times. Family members of faculty and staff members may utilize the

outdoor pool with a paid family pass. A parent or guardian must accompany non-students under the age of 18 years old. A valid FMU Identification Card, Alumni Association Membership Card, or a valid Family member pass (if not accompanied by a member of the FMU community) is required for entry into the pool area.

Generally, the outdoor pool is available for open recreation use by authorized members of the FMU community and their guests. The pool is available for private usage by officially recognized student organizations one night per week (usually Monday) with prior reservations. Reservations should be made through the Coordinator of the University Center. The pool may be reserved for a two-hour period at the cost of \$50 per hour. If more than 75 guests are present, an additional lifeguard is required at the additional cost of \$20 per hour. Private functions are limited to 150 persons. All persons in attendance are required to adhere to all pool rules as well as all regulations, policies, and procedures of Francis Marion University.

The pool may be reserved for official University functions as deemed appropriate.

Sound systems may not be used at the pool unless approved by the Coordinator of the University Center. When approved, the volume of sound systems must be at a minimal level so music may not be heard beyond the pool area.

In accordance with the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control regulations as well as to ensure a safe recreational environment, the following rules have been established for participants using the pool:

- Swimming is allowed only when a lifeguard is on duty.
- There should be no running, boisterous or rough play in the pool or around the pool area.
- No person under the influence of alcohol or drugs should use the pool.
- There should be no spitting or blowing of nose in pool.
- Persons with communicable disease should not enter the pool.
- Persons with skin, eye, ear or nasal infections should not enter the pool.
- No animals or pets allowed in the pool.
- No glass allowed in the pool or on the deck.
- No children should be in the pool without supervision.
- Pool hours will vary with the season and will be posted at the pool area.
- The maximum number of swimmers allowed in the pool is 75.
- A first aid kit is located with the lifeguard.
- An emergency phone (or other notification device) is located with the lifeguard.
- Food and beverages are not allowed within six feet of the pool.
- Swimmers must wear appropriate swimming attire.
- Any flotation devices used must be U.S. Coast Guard approved.

- Swimmers must shower before entering pool.
- Shallow water – no diving allowed.
- Smoking is not allowed in the pool area.
- Radios and other musical devices (CD players, tape players, MP3 players, etc.) may be used with personal headphones only.
- Speakers may not be used unless approved by the Coordinator of the University Center.

Participants using the pool must understand that participation in recreational activities involves certain inherent risks of personal injury. The use of equipment, facilities, and premises of Francis Marion University by persons participating in recreational activities shall constitute acceptance of that risk regardless of the nature of the injury. The participant must agree that the University, its officers, employees, and agents shall not be liable for any injury, loss, or damage sustained or suffered by persons participating in recreational activities at the University, whether caused directly or indirectly by negligence or fault of Francis Marion University, its officers, employees or agents. The participant must further understand that Francis Marion University does not provide insurance coverage for individuals using recreational facilities and that individuals not having appropriate health coverage are strongly advised to acquire health insurance prior to exposing themselves to possible injury.

Participants must follow the directions of the lifeguard or other University personnel on duty at the pool. Failure to abide by this directive may result in removal from the pool area and future denial of access, as well as other appropriate measures. The lifeguard is authorized to close the pool due to inclement weather, mechanical failure, health risks, or other unforeseen circumstances.

A complete copy of the rules and regulations concerning pool operations, including information about lifeguard responsibilities and maintenance procedures, is available in the Coordinator of the University Center office in the Smith University Center.

## **Have fun but be thoughtful!**

Francis Marion University is not responsible for injuries received by anyone while playing or practicing sports on the FMU campus. All individuals are requested to have physician's approval before beginning an exercise program. All participants should confer with their insurance carrier to make sure they are covered or consult with Student Health Services for insurance information. Users of the gym and racquetball courts must wear smooth-sole tennis shoes as any others will damage courts. Anyone not wearing proper shoes will be asked to leave the courts.

## **CAREER DEVELOPMENT**

The Office of Career Development (OCD) supports the educational goals of the University mission statement by helping students and alumni



learn about the career development process as a life skill and how to apply it to individual circumstances, providing opportunities for experiential learning, and serving as a link from college to the world of work.

## **Career Planning and Counseling Services**

Individual career planning appointments are available in the Office of Career Development. The staff provides guidance, direction, support and resources.

The Office of Career Development provides workshops each semester that cover topics on resume writing, interviewing skills and job search techniques. Mock interview sessions are available on an individual basis by appointment and are designed to help students improve their interview skills. Practice interviews provide a thorough and constructive evaluation of interview skills in a comfortable counseling environment.

DISCOVER is a career guidance program available through the Office of Career Development. Many students use DISCOVER to get quick information and facts about certain career fields. Others take one or all four of the assessment inventories available to gain an idea of careers that are related to their unique interests, abilities and experiences as well as their academic majors.

## **Employment Opportunities**

On the job board outside the Office of Career Development, students can learn about full-time, part-time, and on-campus job opportunities as well as internships. Students who register with our online job and resume service, provided in partnership with College Central Network, can view jobs via the web. Students can also upload resumes to the online service and make their resumes available to over 100 employers that use this resource to locate potential employees.

The Office of Career Development coordinates three recruiting events each year designed to provide opportunities for students to meet and network with employers and gather information about career opportunities within their chosen fields.

## **Career Resources**

The Office of Career Development houses a diverse collection of career resources to assist students as they explore careers, research employers, and develop overall job search skills. A small computer lab is contained in the Office of Career Development. Students are welcome to use this facility to research employers, compose resumes and cover letters, or take the DISCOVER career assessment.

## **Volunteer Services**

The Office of Career Development, in response to the needs and interests of students as well as the community, encourages Francis Marion University students to become involved in a variety of volunteer

programs. The possibilities for student involvement are unlimited. Volunteer agencies need assistance in settings such as hospitals, recreation centers, preschools, tutorial programs, public schools, and social services programs. Students interested in volunteering are encouraged to attend the Volunteer Fair in the fall and/or to obtain information from the Volunteer Resources Notebook in the Office of Career Development.

## Job Development

One responsibility of the Office of Career Development is to help assure that job opportunities are made available to students and alumni. OCD actively works to foster and maintain positive relationships with the surrounding business community. Many state, regional and national employers attend our Job Fair Expos and post job announcements with our office. In addition, OCD continually seeks to develop relationships with new employers in order to maximize employment opportunities available to students.

## COUNSELING AND TESTING

The Office of Counseling and Testing provides the following services for the University community: 1) personal counseling services for enrolled students, 2) accommodations for students with disabilities, and 3) the proctoring of standardized tests (i.e., Praxis, CLEP and Miller Analogies Test).

### Personal Counseling

For most students, the college experience reflects a significant period of transition. Transitions are often exciting, but they also require change and adjustment. This can be stressful. The Office of Counseling and Testing offers services for students who may be experiencing difficulties related to these changes. Common counseling topics include depression, sexuality, stress management, relationship issues and academic problems. You don't need to have severe emotional problems to benefit from our services. Many students use counseling to expand their personal growth and development. Our services are confidential and free to currently enrolled students.

### Testing Services

The Office of Counseling and Testing is responsible for the administration of numerous testing programs. Testing is usually available Monday - Friday, beginning at 8:30 a.m. Fees vary according to the tests. We ask that candidates make an appointment for their desired date and time. The Office of Counseling and Testing proctors several national (Saturday) testing programs (i.e., the PRAXIS and GRE Subject Test). We receive program bulletins from the testing companies, and these are available to the general public.

Some examples of the tests offered by the Office of Counseling and Testing:

### *College Level Examination Program (CLEP)*

Francis Marion University awards course credit for satisfactory scores on the Subject Examinations offered through CLEP. Only freshman and sophomore students are eligible to take CLEP exams without prior permission from a department chair. Juniors and seniors may attempt CLEP exams with the permission of the department chair or dean of the school or discipline in which a particular exam is offered. There are 28 subjects available for CLEP testing. Please see the University catalog for a list of approved tests and the scores needed to earn college credit.

CLEP exams are computer-based tests and are scheduled on an individual basis at the Office of Counseling and Testing. Each exam lasts 90 minutes. The cost of each exam is \$70. There is also a \$15 proctoring fee. Please call 843-661-1840 for further information.

### *SAT (ISAT) and ACT*

FMU offers an on-site administration of the Scholastic Assessment Test (SAT). This is known as an Institutional SAT (ISAT). Students should take this exam if they have not taken the SAT in high school or if they need to increase their score for admission purposes. The ISAT is offered several times per month at the Office of Counseling and Testing. Please call 843-661-1840 for testing times and to schedule an appointment. Cost of the test is \$50.

We have two forms of the ISAT. You may take both forms, but your exam dates must be at least one month apart. If you still need to increase your score for admission purposes, you may request to take the institutional version of the ACT. We offer this test on a limited basis and need advance notification to administer it to you.

### *Miller Analogies Test (MAT)*

The Office of Counseling and Testing offers a computer-based version of the MAT, which is scheduled on an individual basis. Examinees must contact our office at 843-661-1840 at least one week in advance to schedule an exam. The cost of the exam is \$70. The parent testing company, the Psychological Corporation, is responsible for scoring and reporting exam scores.

On the day of your scheduled exam, you should bring the following:

- A photo identification card
- A re-test admission ticket (if you are taking the exam for the 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> time)

## Services for Students with Special Needs or Disabilities

### *Accessing Services*

Francis Marion University is committed to making programs and activities available to qualified students with disabilities. Francis Marion University also makes efforts to ensure that the University grounds, major buildings, and classes are accessible to individuals with disabilities. In compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Francis Marion recognizes a student with a disability as anyone who has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities.

The Director of Counseling and Testing is responsible for coordinating services for students with disabilities. The director collaborates with students in determining reasonable accommodations and acts as a liaison between students and faculty/administration on concerns relating to classroom accommodations. The Director of Counseling and Testing is also available to meet with prospective students to discuss services available at Francis Marion University. The director can be reached at 843-661-1841.

### *Eligibility for Services*

Students are asked to provide documentation of their disability at least two weeks before enrolling for the first time. To qualify for services, students must provide appropriate documentation of a disability from a qualified health services provider (i.e., physician, licensed psychologist). Documentation should include a diagnosis, an explanation of the disability's effect in an academic setting, and recommendations regarding accommodations. Psycho-educational evaluations for learning disabilities and Attention Deficit Disorder should be current, usually within the last three years. Furthermore, if the initial documentation is incomplete or inadequate to determine the extent of the disability, FMU has the discretion to require additional documentation. The cost of obtaining documentation is the responsibility of the student.

A student's documentation goes before the Documentation Review Committee (DRC) where his or her eligibility for services is determined. The committee meets approximately once a month and is responsible for determining whether the documentation is sufficient for establishing a disability under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). A letter of approval or denial is sent to students within two to four weeks after the documentation review. If approved, students should make an appointment with the Director of Counseling and Testing to identify the accommodations available to them. If denied, students may appeal to the ADA Compliance Coordinator at Francis Marion (Dr. Charlene Wages, Vice President for Administration, 843-661-1141).

### *Academic Accommodations*

Appropriate academic accommodations are based on an interview with the student and a review of the student's documentation. Students should schedule an interview with the Director of Counseling and Testing at least two weeks before enrolling for the first time. Depending on the nature of the accommodations, a student may be requested to provide a copy of a class schedule, course syllabus, or other information necessary to ensure that accommodations can be arranged. Students will continue to meet with the director at least once per academic year, to make sure that the accommodations process is continuing to meet their needs.

### *Confidentiality*

Disability documentation is confidential. It is housed in the Office of Counseling and Testing and is generally not shared with other University staff or professors. A student's documentation could be shared on a "need to know" basis in the case of an emergency or if there is a formal investigation of a complaint. In order to provide most accommodations, it is necessary for us to notify professors that a student is eligible for disability accommodations. In most cases, this involves the sharing of the student's name and disability-related needs, not the specifics of his or her disability.

### *Notifying Professors*

At the beginning of each semester, the Office of Counseling and Testing will write a faculty notification letter and will address it to the student's professors. The letter verifies that the student is registered with our office and lists the accommodations the student is eligible to receive. The letters are confidential and do not reveal the nature of a student's disability. Students are encouraged to deliver their letters to their professors. They may also request that the Office of Counseling and Testing deliver the letters for them. Students are responsible for reviewing the letter and notifying the Office of Counseling and Testing if there are any concerns or if they make a change to their class schedule.

It is the student's responsibility to meet with each professor and work out how his or her classroom accommodations will be met. For example, if a student is eligible for extra time on tests, he or she must approach the professor and determine how the extended time will be arranged. The professor has the right to deny the request if it is not made in a timely manner.

### *Accessible Computers*

Computers with speech output software (JAWS) and large-print software (ZoomText) are available in the Academic Computer Center and the English Writing Center. If further accommodations are necessary (e.g., adaptive software), students should submit their requests to the Director of Counseling and Testing.

### *Accessible Desks and Tables*

Desks and tables that accommodate wheelchairs are available. After registration, students should notify the Office of Counseling and Testing about their class schedule and the need for accessible desks and tables.

### *Accessible Residence Halls*

Residence hall rooms with varying degrees of accessibility are available. Reasonable efforts are made to accommodate students with disabilities who wish to live on campus. Students with disabilities must follow the sign-up procedures established by the Housing Office. Students must provide documentation from an appropriate professional indicating diagnosis and the need for housing accommodations. For further information, contact the Housing Office at 843-661-1330 or the Office of Counseling and Testing at 843-661-1841.

### *Grievance Process*

If students are having problems with their accommodations, they should first notify the Director of Counseling and Testing. If problems cannot be resolved through the Office of Counseling and Testing, students with disabilities are asked to contact FMU's ADA Coordinator in the J. Howard Stokes Administration Building, Office of Administration, 843-661-1140.

### *Parking Permits for Students with Disabilities*

Prior to obtaining a Disabled Placard, students must complete registration of their vehicle. This can be accomplished during class registration by completing the appropriate Vehicle Registration Card as a resident or commuter student and paying the appropriate fee. The permanent vehicle registration sticker must be displayed on the left rear bumper or left rear exterior glass of the vehicle, attached to the outside using the supplied adhesive (please refer to the Traffic Regulations section of this handbook). The placard can be obtained from the Office of Counseling and Testing. The placard must be displayed on the dashboard of the vehicle whenever parked on campus. To obtain a disabled parking placard:

- The student must present the documentation outlined in the Eligibility for Services section.
- The student must comply with South Carolina State Statute 56-3-1960 regarding eligibility for special consideration.
- The vehicle must be registered on campus and display a FMU resident or commuter student decal.

Students needing special parking consideration, such as pick-up or drop-off at crosswalks in front of buildings, should present these needs to the Office of Counseling and Testing so that Campus Police can be notified. At no time should a crosswalk be blocked for periods longer than necessary to pick-up or drop-off a student with disabilities.

### *Temporary Parking Permits for Students with Disabilities*

Provisions have been made for temporary disabled parking placards for individuals who will be disabled for a limited time. These permits may be obtained from the Office of Counseling and Testing. Students requesting temporary permits must have a current FMU parking decal (resident or commuter).

### *Personal Care Attendants*

Personal care attendants assist individuals with completing daily living skills such as grooming, personal hygiene, meal preparation, medication monitoring, maintenance of personal living environment, lifting or turning pages, and transporting/escorting. The cost and maintenance of services for a personal care attendant are the responsibility of the student. To determine if a personal care attendant (PCA) is needed, students will need to assess their skills and abilities with their medical provider, vocational rehabilitation counselor, or case manager.

The Office of Counseling and Testing is willing to advise students on the recruitment and hiring of PCAs. For example, the office can provide a location for students to interview prospective PCAs and can generate ideas for how to advertise the position on campus. Students with disabilities are the employers and will set the wages, hours, job duties, and conditions for employment. As such, students are expected to create their own flyers and applications for the position. For classroom and general campus assistance, some students will find it helpful to recruit and hire other students. For more involved personal care needs, students can make arrangements through agencies or private contracts.

### *Tutoring*

Tutorial services are considered to be personal services; therefore, all expenses for personal tutors are the responsibility of the student. Free academic assistance is available from the Tutoring Center (661-1675) and the Writing Center (661-1528). Contact the Director of Counseling and Testing if you need assistance working with departments to secure a personal tutor.

## **RESIDENCE LIFE**

### **Mission**

The Office of Housing and Residence Life promotes academic success by providing safe, comfortable, attractive, modern, well-maintained residential facilities and quality management operations. The department strives to maintain a campus living and learning environment that fosters student learning, promotes active engagement and collaboration with others, motivates and inspires students to devote time and energy to activities that enhance academic and community living skills. In support of the mission of the Office of Student Affairs and Francis Marion University, opportunities are provided for positive, educational and social experiences, both inside and outside the classroom.

## Housing Staff

The Housing Staff consists of the Director, three Assistant Directors and two Office Administrators. The Director oversees all operations, while one Assistant Director is responsible for facility issues and student accounts. Two of the Assistant Directors live on campus, conduct disciplinary meetings as designated campus judicial officers, enforce University policy, respond to crisis situations, and provide onsite support and oversight for 36 student Resident Assistants. The office administrators are responsible for keys, maintenance requests, student assignments and general inquiries.

## Campus Community

A residence hall or University apartment is more than just a place for sleeping and storing books. It will be your home, the place where you will spend most of your time – studying, socializing, and living. That is why we work hard to make sure our halls and apartments are inviting, comfortable, safe places to live and learn.

At FMU, one of our greatest achievements is having a close working relationship with individual students. The halls are designed as small living communities of about 40 students per floor. We offer the services of upperclass student staff members, called Resident Assistants, on each residence hall floor, with several assigned to the apartments.

The floor or building where you live is like your neighborhood. You'll have opportunities to get to know other students quickly and comfortably, to play on intramural teams, to socialize together, to help one another with academics, and to develop greater interpersonal skills. We invite you to take pride and responsibility in the creation of your floor or building community by getting involved. While the Resident Assistant will foster and initiate that sense of community, it is up to the residents to participate.

To foster a community environment, staff members are committed to addressing each resident's concerns and interests. If you have concerns, please address them with the Housing and Residence Life staff. As you immerse yourself in campus life, you will find many activities and student organizations. The more involved you are and the more connected you become to your University, the more successful you will be as a student.

## Programming and Community Activities

A variety of social and educational programs and activities are offered each semester for students living in the residence halls and apartments. The goals for programming are to build community and help students learn about others as well as themselves. Many of the activities focus on the following areas: social, occupational, spiritual, physical, intellectual, and emotional growth and development. Some examples of programs are study skills seminars, stress management, career choices, alcohol awareness, abusive relationship panel, roommate



game, Super Bowl parties, how to get along with your roommate, safe sex education, and others. Programs are offered during the week as well as on the weekends. If you have suggestions for programs, please tell your RA.

## **What are community standards?**

Everyone in the community must respect the rights of others and make choices to maintain a safe and secure environment that allows all residents to pursue their academic goals. There are also some standards in the form of established policies that have been set forth for which you will be accountable. These include, but are not limited to, University Housing and Residence Life Policies, the Code of Student Conduct, and the University Alcohol and Drug Policy. These policies can be found in this Student Handbook and other University publications.

## **What happens when standards are not met or a policy is violated?**

Ideally, all members of the community encourage one another to live by the standards and policies set forth. However, when infractions occur, individuals must take responsibility for their choices. A disciplinary process exists by which individuals are held accountable for their choices and actions that violate policies. Typically, RAs become initially involved in responding to policy violations. The RA then makes a report to the assistant director of Housing and Residence Life, who determines what actions should be taken (which may include referral to the Dean of Students Office – see Code of Student Conduct). When an RA or other University official, confronts a possible violation of University policy, everyone involved is expected to comply with their requests. Failure to do so will result in disciplinary action.

## **Resident Assistant or RAs**

A Resident Assistant is a student staff member who works for Housing and Residence Life. RAs are trained to provide support, oversight, and guidance to residential students, while enforcing University policy and coordinating activities designed to positively enhance the campus community. When acting in accordance with their job responsibilities, Resident Assistants are considered University officials, and students are expected to comply with requests made by an RA.

Resident Assistants are on duty during the evening hours and on weekends. Students may contact Resident Assistants to report any crisis situation, to request information, to report violations of policy, or to report maintenance needs.

## **Roommate/Suitemate Relationships**

Living with another individual in close quarters requires communication, cooperation and compromise. For many college students, this is the first time they have shared a room with another person on a semi-

permanent basis. A roommate/suitemate relationship, like any other, needs each individual to work at and care about making the relationship work. The key to a successful relationship is open communication *before* any conflicts or problems arise. It is a good idea to discuss issues and set basic standards that establish a respectful atmosphere in the room. Some issues you may wish to discuss include guest visitation times and behavior, noise level/study time, cleanliness, taking messages, borrowing personal belongings, sharing (food, stereo, TV, etc.), privacy, smoking/substance use, “morning” vs. “night” orientation.

A few minutes of discussion, sharing thoughts and feelings, and consideration for the other person early in the roommate relationship can often avoid hours and days of heartache and frustration later.

If conflict arises between roommates/suitemates, the individuals should discuss the situation. If the situation is not resolved, it should then be addressed with the RA. The RA will facilitate more open discussion and assist in a resolution of the disagreement. Continued difficulties may be referred to the director of Housing and Residence Life. The director may require other action or the relocation of students if necessary. Physical or psychological threat or harm and intimidation to others cannot be tolerated and will result in disciplinary action.

## Room Assignment Change

If you desire to change your room assignment, you must make a Room Assignment Change Request in the Housing and Residence Life Office. Any change of room assignment **must** be approved **prior** to a move taking place. Failure to obtain proper approval prior to moving will result in disciplinary action being taken and moving back to the original assignment.

The University may change a student’s room assignment, including to a different area of campus or type of housing facility, if the reassignment is deemed by the University to be in the best interest of the student, the University, or the campus community.

## Decorations

You are encouraged to personalize your room. It is a good idea to discuss decorations with your roommate(s). You may hang posters and pictures from the wall, but this must be done with non-damaging materials or removable hangers. Residents are billed for repairs necessary due to damages to the walls. Flammable materials must not cover more than one third of the total wall space. Contact your RA or the Housing and Residence Life Office for further information.

In decorating your door or other space, you are encouraged to consider this space publicly visible. You are encouraged to avoid posting materials regarding race, sex, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, age or physical disability that may be considered offensive to fellow residents or guests. Residents will be required to remove decorations that constitute a safety hazard. Failure to do so will result in the

items being removed by University staff, and the residents will be charged with a violation of policy. Please note that some items are prohibited, including public street signs, stolen items, and alcohol containers in the residence halls.

## Fire hazards

Fire safety and prevention is of paramount importance in a campus living environment, and the responsibility for this safety rests on each resident. No open flame or any flammable liquid is permitted in the residential facilities (e.g., oil lamps, candles, gasoline, incense, halogen lamps). Also, in the event of a fire alarm or fire drill, all residents must evacuate the building, completely and immediately (see Campus Police section for more information).

## Appliances

For health and safety reasons, certain appliances may not be used or possessed in the residence halls. Cooking appliances may only be used in the kitchen area of the apartments. Following is a list of appliances that may not be used in the residence halls or apartments (unless otherwise noted):

- Appliances with a heating element (coffee pot, hot plate, hot pot, cooking coils, George Foreman type grills, etc., allowed in apartments only)
- Microwave ovens (one per residence hall room)
- Window air conditioners
- Large refrigerators or freezers
- Grills
- Space heaters
- Halogen Lamps

## Pets

For health and safety reasons, students and their guests are prohibited from possessing pets in and around the residence halls and student apartments. Feeding stray or wild animals is prohibited. Students found in possession of or feeding an animal will be required to remove or stop feeding the animal immediately and will be subject to disciplinary action. Additionally, the student will be assessed for any pest control or cleaning costs.

## Business Related Activities

Distribution of written materials and solicitation by students, University employees, nonaffiliated individuals, and nonaffiliated groups are prohibited in student housing. Canvassing, selling, offering for sale, soliciting, or promoting the sale of any goods or services is prohibited on University premises, including residence halls and apartments, except as allowed under University policy (see Solicitation Policy in Rights and Responsibilities section). However, an individual student has the

right to invite anyone into his or her residence hall living quarters for the purposes of that student considering or purchasing the invitee's goods or services. Students are not allowed to conduct commercial activities or business ventures from their rooms or apartments.

Written materials designed for commercial purposes may not be distributed on University premises, including residence halls and apartments. Before any material is posted, it must be approved through the Offices of Housing and Residence Life or Student Affairs (see Literature Distribution and Posting Policy).

## **Sports and Use of Sports Equipment**

Use of outdoor sporting equipment such as balls, frisbees, golf clubs, bats, skateboards, lacrosse sticks, etc. inside of the residence halls and apartments is prohibited. Use of such equipment indoors poses a threat to the physical safety of residents and can result in damage to University or individual property or bodily harm as well as creating noise problems. Use of such equipment is restricted to appropriate locations outside of the residence halls and apartments.

## **Safety and Security**

You are strongly urged to carry your keys at all times and to lock your door when you are not in the room. We also recommend you keep your door locked while you are in your room. Residents are encouraged to be active in maintaining a safe and secure community. Report any threats to safety to your RA or Campus Police. These threats might include, but are not limited to, suspicious persons in the building, damage to doors, windows, screens or locks which may have been tampered with, poor lighting at entrances and exits or malfunctioning phones at main building entrances.

A safe and secure living community for residents is important. Any action on the part of a resident that threatens the safety or security of another resident or his/her property will result in disciplinary action. Potentially dangerous actions include, but are not limited to, providing or allowing entry to nonresidents or unauthorized individuals, propping locked doors, loaning keys, accessing student rooms other than one's own, taking another's property, tampering with locks, and/or removing screens from ground floor windows.

## **Windows/Balconies**

Throwing objects from windows, balconies, etc., is a danger to students outside of the building and is therefore prohibited. Hanging outside or climbing from windows is also prohibited due to the danger involved. Screens must remain in windows at all times. It is prohibited to enter or exit through the windows. Students are required to report any damage to windows, screens, or doors to the Housing Office.

## Guest/Visitation Policies and Procedures

Each guest must have some form of positive photo identification with proof of age. Guests must be 18 years old or older in order to visit the residence halls and student apartments. When visiting, the guest must be escorted by the host resident at all times. When accompanied by a parent, those under 18 may visit occasionally between the hours of noon and 8 p.m. Any exceptions to this guideline must have the prior approval of the Director of Housing. Guests should not be left in the building while the resident is not present. Residents are responsible for the actions of their guests. Violations of this policy by residents will result in disciplinary actions, which could include loss of visitation privileges. Nonresidents who violate any part of this policy may be banned from the residential facilities or campus. Please note that due to liability reasons, babysitting is not allowed.

**Opposite Gender Guest Visitation** – Overnight guests of the opposite gender are not allowed. Members of the opposite gender may visit residents during the following hours.

### Residence Halls

Sunday through Thursday: 10 a.m. – midnight

Friday and Saturday: 10 a.m. – 2 a.m.

### Village Apartments and Forest Villas

Due to the nature of the student apartments, guest visitation is not restricted to specific time periods. However, all other guest visitation guidelines are applicable.

**Same Gender Guest Visitation** – Residential students may visit other residential students of the same gender at any time. Non-residential students must adhere to the same visitation hours that apply to opposite gender visitation unless they have registered as an overnight guest. Residents may have overnight guests of the same gender with written approval from the Resident Assistant or Housing and Residence Life Office staff. Overnight Guest Visitation Forms are available from the Housing and Residence Life Office during business hours or from a Resident Assistant when the office is closed. Overnight Guest Visitation Forms must be completed and submitted prior to midnight. Overnight guests are required to register their vehicles and display a temporary parking permit as noted on the Overnight Guest Visitation Form. Please note that **all** residents of a room or apartment must sign the Overnight Guest Visitation Form.

## Trash Disposal

Residents are expected to remove garbage and other trash from their rooms and apartments on a regular basis. For convenience, large trash

dumpsters are located throughout the area. Trash should not be left on balconies, in hallways, or other areas of the residential facilities. A \$25 trash fee will be charged if a resident leaves trash outside their apartment or residence hall room. The fee will be divided evenly among all residents that live in that apartment or residence hall at that time unless it can be determined who it belongs to.

## Noise

Because of the nature of high-density living on a college campus, it is important that the rights and responsibilities of all residents are both respected and protected. One right all students have is to live in an environment that is conducive to the educational nature of Francis Marion University. In order to respect the rights of others, it is expected that students will not create excessive amounts of noise in the residential areas of campus. If noise of any type is loud enough to potentially disturb others, it is unacceptable. Exceptions to this policy can be made by the Office of the Dean of Students or the Office of Housing and Residence Life for pre-approved activities by recognized students or campus organizations. While not all-inclusive, following is a list of examples of what might generate unacceptable levels of noise:

- Playing stereo loud enough to be heard outside of your room or apartment.
- Screaming, yelling, or making other verbal noise that can disturb others.
- Large groups of people gathered in public places near residence halls (e.g. octagon, triangle, etc.) or apartments (e.g. community center, picnic areas, etc.) talking or playing music loudly.
- Car stereos loud enough to be heard outside of the vehicle.
- Running, jumping, dancing, or other activity that can be heard in other parts of the building.
- Televisions, video games, or other devices loud enough to be heard outside of the room.
- Banging or knocking on doors in a manner that others may be disturbed.

In all residence halls and apartments, 24 hour “courtesy hours” are in effect with regard to noise. This means that at all times, residents must be aware and courteous regarding the noise level and how their noise may impact others’ ability to study, sleep, read, visit, etc.

## Weapons/Firearms/Fireworks

Possession or use of any type of firearm, fireworks, or other weapons by anyone on University-owned or -controlled property is prohibited. Instruments used to simulate such weapons in acts that endanger or tend to endanger any person shall be considered a weapon. Involvement in this activity will result in removal from the residential facilities on a permanent basis and could result in other sanctions such as suspension or expulsion (see Code of Student Conduct). For more infor-

mation regarding weapons on campus, please see Campus Police section of this handbook.

## **Housing Assignment Eligibility Requirements**

FMU Housing facilities are designed to accommodate full-time undergraduate students enrolled in 12 (or more) credit hours and graduate students enrolled in 6 (or more) credit hours. Students enrolled in fewer credit hours during the last semester of study prior to graduation are also eligible. Students enrolled in fewer credit hours may receive assignments when space is available.

### **Residence Hall Assignments**

Freshmen who choose to live on campus are assigned to residence halls, where students live in a four-person suite consisting of two bedrooms and one bathroom. Some upper-class students also receive assignments in the residence halls.

### **Village Apartment Assignments**

Students who have completed two semesters of college (minimum of 24 credit hours) with acceptable academic and disciplinary records are eligible to apply for assignment in the Village Apartments. The Village Apartments offer two options. The four student units contain four bedrooms, one bathroom, a living room and furnished kitchen. The two student units contain one shared bedroom, one bathroom, a living room and furnished kitchen.

### **Forest Villas Assignments**

Priority for assignments in the Forest Villas apartment complex is given to juniors, seniors, and graduate students with acceptable academic and disciplinary records. The Forest Villas apartment units contain four private bedrooms, two bathrooms, a living room, and a kitchen. A limited number of one and two bedroom units are occasionally available.

## **Information Desk (GO-RA)**

To provide service to students after regular business hours, the Office of Housing and Residence Life operates an information and service desk during evening hours throughout the Fall and Spring semesters. Staffed by Resident Assistants who are on duty, students may contact the desk by dialing ext. 4672 (GO-RA) for assistance with lock-outs, emergency maintenance, noise, or other issues.

The Forest Villas Community Center Information Desk hours during the academic year are Monday through Sunday from 12 p.m.-11 p.m. During the Late Spring, Summer I and Summer II sessions, the hours are Monday through Sunday from 5 p.m.-11 p.m.

## **Contract and Term Periods**

Upon acceptance of an on-campus assignment, students complete

the Housing and Residence Life contract in agreement to abide by policies as stated by the University. Applicants under the age of 18 must have their contracts signed by a parent or guardian.

Clearance to remain in apartments and residence halls between terms and during official recesses must be obtained in advance from the director of Housing and Residence Life. Generally, athletes participating in activities while the University is closed will be granted approval.

The Housing and Residence Life contract is a written agreement between a student and FMU concerning accommodations, services and responsibilities. Terms and conditions are specifically listed in the contract. Failure to abide by the contract could result in its immediate termination. Copies are available in the Housing and Residence Life Office.

The term periods of the Housing and Residence Life contract are: Fall, Spring, Late Spring, Summer I and/or Summer II. The contract extends from the first day of the term until the last day of the term. Campus facilities will be closed from the last day of exams in December until the day before registration for the Spring semester. During the recess, the University secures the locks where occupancy has not been approved.

Students are expected to remove all belongings and officially check out of their campus housing assignment no more than 24 hours after their last exam. University housing closes on the Wednesday following completion of final examinations at noon. Only students participating in commencement exercises in an official capacity are allowed to remain in campus housing until the day of commencement. Other students that need to stay on campus past that date must request and receive written approval from the Director of Housing. Any student remaining in campus housing beyond the official closing date will be charged the current per diem rate.

## **Housing and Dining Refund Policy**

For Housing and Dining refunds, students who leave on-campus housing during the first two weeks of classes (beginning with the first day of classes for the Fall and Spring semesters) will receive a 90% refund less the \$150 Housing reservation fee. Students who have a meal plan that leave during the first two weeks of classes or move from the residence halls to the apartments will receive a 90% refund of the meal plan assessment.

After the first two weeks of classes, there will be no guaranteed refund of housing and meal plans. However, appeals will be accepted. Appeals must be submitted within the academic semester that the appeal is based upon.

A refund of the housing fee and meal plan fee may be considered for situations such as academic dismissal, marriage, activation of military services, or uniquely extenuating circumstances that occur during the term of this contract.



All appeals will require documentation and must be submitted to the Director of Housing and/or the Director of Dining Services who will forward the request to the Housing and Dining Refund Committee. Students will be notified in writing of the committee's decision. The Housing reservation fee of \$150 will be deducted from all refunds with the exception of academic dismissal and military activation.

## Facilities

The following are descriptions of the housing facilities available at FMU.

**Residence Halls** – The six Residence Hall buildings consist of several floors of suites. Each suite contains two bedrooms (two students to a bedroom) with an adjoining bathroom shared by the four residents. Palmetto, Swamp Fox, Marion State, Belle Isle, Snow Island and Ellen C. Watson Residence Halls provide an environment for most freshmen and sophomore students. This setting, with three buildings on each side of the dining facility and a nearby study hall, promotes the establishment of new friends, develops community-living skills and provides academic enrichment. First floor residence hall units are available with provisions for persons with disabilities.

**Village Apartments** – Students assigned to the Village Apartments may choose from two options: a one-bedroom apartment shared by two students or a four-bedroom apartment with individual bedrooms for four students. Apartment residents share kitchen and living room space.

The one-bedroom (two-student) apartments are Ingram, Kidwell and Newton. The four-bedroom apartments are Anderson, Baxter, Dalton, Ervin, Ferguson, Gallington, Henderson, Johnston, Logan and Moultrie.

**Forest Villas Apartments** – The five three-story buildings consist of 104 four-bedroom units, five two-bedroom units and five one-bedroom units, capable of housing approximately 427 residents. Each apartment includes single bedrooms. Four-bedroom and two-bedroom apartments feature shared living, dining and kitchen facilities. Four-bedroom units include two full bathrooms. Apartment units are available with provisions for persons with disabilities.

**Forest Villas Community Center** – The Forest Villas Community Center is available for use by all students. Located at the entrance to the Forest Villas, the center is suitable for social functions, meetings, and recreation. Facilities in the Community Center may be available for reservations by organizations on a limited basis. Features include:

- Large screen television
- Fitness room
- Laundry facility

- Vending
- Service desk

**Housing Office Complex** – The Allard A. Allston Housing Office complex is located in the courtyard of Belle Isle, Snow Island, and Ellen C. Watson residence halls. The Housing Office is open during regular University business hours. Office space for the housing staff, a service desk, restrooms, a meeting room, tutoring center, and study room are located in the complex. Other amenities include a microwave oven, vending machines, and a copy machine. Services include maintenance requests, room change requests, package pick-up, key services, vacuum loans, and general residential student assistance.

## Furnishings

All facilities are air-conditioned. Telephone, TV, cable and Internet connections are provided in each residence hall room and in each apartment. There is one cable connection in each residence hall room, Village Apartments common area, Forest Villas common area and each Forest Villas bedroom. There are two internet connections in each residence hall room and one connection in each apartment bedroom.

Furnishings must always be arranged to provide easy access to air conditioning units and conform to safety regulations. Due to an order from the office of the fire marshal, furniture must not be rearranged in residence hall rooms. Beds must not be elevated above floor level. Lofts are not permitted. Window treatments are provided. All windows have privacy (venetian) blinds; therefore, curtains are not needed.

Residence hall suites are furnished with smoke detectors and fire sprinklers in each room with fire extinguishers located in the corridors, shower curtains and rods, single-size beds and mattresses, wall shelves, wardrobes, study desks and chairs. The floors are carpeted.

Village Apartments are furnished with a single-size bed and mattress, wardrobe with inset chest, study desk and chair, and smoke/fire detector in each bedroom. Apartment commons areas are equipped with stoves, refrigerators, microwave ovens, dining tables and chairs, sofas, shower curtains and rods, and fire extinguishers. The apartments are fully carpeted except for tile areas in the kitchen and bathroom. The Forest Villas offer full-size beds, living room chair, entertainment stand, end tables, dishwasher, fire sprinklers in each bedroom and common area, fire extinguisher in each apartment and corridor, and garbage disposal in addition to the amenities in the Village Apartments.

## Cleaning Equipment

Cleaning services and supplies are not provided; students are responsible for purchasing their own cleaning supplies and cleaning their own rooms. Vacuum cleaners are available for checkout at the Housing and Residence Life Office (at no charge for two-hours usage). A valid ID card must be presented to borrow the equipment. The vacuum cleaner

should be returned promptly for availability to others. A \$10 usage fee will be charged if a resident fails to return the vacuum cleaner to the Community Center within the two-hour time limit.

## Things To Bring

In addition to personal belongings, each resident is encouraged to bring the following: a flashlight, study lamp, alarm clock, waste basket, pillow, towels and wash cloths, bath mat, laundry basket or bag and clothes hangers. For the single bed, residents will need a mattress pad, bed spread, blanket and linens. (Oversize linens are recommended). Residents may wish to share expenses for jointly-used items such as iron and ironing board, mop, broom, bowl brush, trash cans, toilet tissue, soap, etc. You may bring your personal computer. Each residence hall occupant may bring a small refrigerator (3.0 cubic feet or less). There is only one microwave (1.0 cubic feet or less) allowed per room.

Apartment residents will also need cookware, utensils and dishes. Small kitchen appliances are allowed, but due to safety regulations, use is restricted to the kitchen area only.

## Storage

Storage space is not available. Trunks, footlockers, luggage and personal furnishings should not be shipped to the University prior to your arrival. Upon departure, all personal items and furnishings must be removed. The University cannot accept responsibility for personal items left on the premises. Abandoned property will be discarded by the University at the student's expense.

## Check-In

Housing fees must be paid in full prior to moving on campus. Payment deadlines are published in the University calendar. Check-in procedures are:

1. Report to the Housing and Residence Life Office to register, complete relevant forms and receive keys.
2. Review, complete and return Room/Apartment Condition Report to the Housing and Residence Life Office within 24 hours after arrival.

The Room/Apartment Condition Report used at the time of check-in will be compared to the check-out forms to determine if any charges are to be assessed to you at the end of the semester or upon withdrawal from housing. Do not fail to return the forms as they are the only records to be used in determining damages above normal wear and tear. Your RA is available to help you with the form.

## Check-Out

Each resident is responsible for cleaning and clearing his/her room. Communal areas must be cleaned jointly by occupants. It is advised

that roommates communicate to determine each person's responsibility prior to departure so that any cleaning and/or repair charges, if applicable, may be properly assessed. Residents should arrange to take care of any personal debts with roommates. Notify the Director of Housing and Residence Life, in writing, if you withdraw before the end of the semester.

1. Thoroughly clean and clear individual rooms and your share of communal areas.
2. Return keys and other FMU equipment to the Housing and Residence Life Office upon your departure.
3. You must check out with a housing staff member before departing campus.
4. Your room will be inspected when you turn in your keys, but please be aware that this is not the final inspection. The Assistant Directors will do the final walk through after everyone has departed campus and before billing is done.
5. All written cleaning agreements are due at the time that the room is inspected. The agreement must be signed by all residents assigned to that apartment or residence hall.

## Mail

For the most efficient delivery of your mail, refer to the sample address listed below. Each resident is assigned a campus number and a key to his/her mailbox. Mail will be posted to mailboxes each day (Monday through Friday) by 5 p.m. Check your mailbox each day to receive US Postal Service deliveries and official FMU correspondence. Failure to check mailboxes will not excuse residents from any responsibilities which were communicated by official University correspondence and posted to mailboxes. Messages may be placed in mailboxes when residents cannot be reached by telephone. Your address format is:

Your Name

Campus # \_\_\_\_\_

5130 East Palmetto Street

Florence, South Carolina 29506

Outgoing mail with proper postage may be placed in either of the U.S. Postal Boxes located on campus or taken to the Mail Center in the Office Services Building. Postage stamps are available for purchase in the Mail Center; however, envelopes and other packaging are not provided. Postal mailboxes are located behind Newton Apartment Building and near Marion State Residence Hall. An intra-campus mailbox is located in the Housing and Residence Life Office.

## Telephones

Outdoor weatherproof telephones are located at the first floor entrance to each of the residence hall buildings and Forest Villas Apartments to be used for communication with students for entry when visiting.

Local telephone service is provided at no added cost. Residents cannot receive collect calls.

Residents may subscribe to the Student Long Distance Service and receive direct-dial, long distance discounted rates through an agreement which is offered by FMU through Spirit Telecom.

To begin using your long distance service, you need to activate the authorization code you will be given when you have your FMU ID card made. Calls can be made from on or off campus at 14 cents per minute any day, any time, using the toll-free number on the back of your FMU ID (a 25 cents surcharge will be added to each call).

Your account balance will be announced each time a call is being processed. Each account has a \$150 limit. Early payment and refreshing of your balance can be arranged by calling the customer service number on the back of your FMU ID. You will receive a monthly bill directly from Spirit Telecom and you will make payment directly to Spirit Telecom (also see Telephone Services).

### **Locked Out of Apartment or Residence Hall (Keys)**

If you are locked out of your residence, come to the Housing and Residence Life Office during business hours to sign out a loaner key that you can keep up to one hour. After office hours and weekends or holidays, contact the Resident Assistant at the Community Building (661-4672) for assistance.

A room or apartment can only be opened for the assigned occupant. Positive identification is required, and there is a small charge for this service.

Residents are expected to carry keys at all times. Caution – for your safety and security, do not lend keys to anyone. Lost room, apartment or mailbox keys should be reported immediately, and replacement keys will be issued by the Housing staff. For your protection, locks will be changed, and new keys will be issued. There will be a replacement cost for lost keys and lock changes; however, residents will be billed at a later date to avoid delay in receiving new keys.

### **Repairs and Services**

Any problem with facilities should be promptly reported in writing to the Housing and Residence Life Office. Housing Work Order/Service Request Forms are available to describe services needed, schedule an appointment to be present, and/or authorize entry into room/apartment in absence of the resident. (Emergency situations requiring immediate attention is an exception to this policy and should be reported without delay to the Housing and Residence Life Office or a Resident Assistant by telephone, if necessary).

Routine pest control and heat/air conditioning services are provided on a regular basis; however, residents should notify the Housing and Residence Life staff or the RA if a problem is noticed. Service representatives will be accompanied by Maintenance staff for these routine duties.

All repairs and services will be made as promptly as the resources and priorities of the University staff permit. Services not performed with reasonable promptness should be reported to the Housing and Residence Life Office.

## **Room and Apartment Inspection**

Authorized University or Housing officials will enter rooms/apartments to (a) perform routine maintenance and custodial services; (b) conduct health and safety inspections; (c) enforce the University Code of Student Conduct; and (d) conduct, by law enforcement officers, search and seizure procedures.

When a room is vacated due to room change or departure from the residential facility, an inventory will be completed. Designated Housing and Residence Life staff will inspect the room/apartment and billing assessments will be processed if appropriate. Refer to the Housing and Residence Life Contract and the Students' Rights and Responsibilities section of the Handbook for additional information regarding the Room Entry Policy.

## **Personal Property Liability/Loss of Service**

In the event of mechanical, electrical or water problems, the University shall make all reasonable efforts to restore service but shall give no abatement in rates because of inability to restore service and shall not be liable for any personal inconvenience or personal losses incurred.

The University is not liable for personal belongings which may be lost, stolen or damaged in any way.

## **Parking**

Perimeter parking is available. Selected access gates within the Village and Forest Villa apartment areas will be open while students are moving in and out of the apartments at the beginning and end of the semester at the direction of the Housing and Residence Life Staff.

## **Loading and Unloading on Access Roads**

- Park vehicle with two wheels on the same side on the grass to allow other vehicles to pass.
- Maximum parking is 20 minutes.
- Parking is prohibited on access roads from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m.
- Vehicles may not be parked on sidewalks or other grassy areas.
- Vehicles cannot be pulled up to the apartment door.

## **Resident and Guest Parking**

Residents must purchase and display the FMU decal (indicated by the letter "R").

Between the hours of 2 a.m. and 6 a.m., parking is restricted to the appropriate resident "R" decal. Commuter students must have appropriate guest visitation paperwork to avoid being ticketed during the restricted hours.

Temporary permits (a section on the Guest Visitation Form) may be obtained for visitors from the Housing and Residence Life Office or your Resident Assistant if proper approval is obtained.

Parking for the Study Hall is available 24 hours daily. Parking during the hours of 2 a.m. and 6 a.m. for off-campus students, faculty, staff and visitors must be coordinated through Campus Police.

For more information, refer to the Campus Police section of this handbook.

## **Insurance**

Each student is encouraged to discuss with his/her parents their family's accident and sickness insurance plans as it relates to college students. If you have expensive equipment such as a computer, stereo, etc., you should also discuss your parents' homeowner's policy to determine if coverage is available. If you do not have medical or personal effects coverage, you may want to consider the purchase of a policy suitable to your needs.

## **Vending Machines**

Vending machines for beverages and snacks can be found at several locations on campus with refund information posted at each location. If you have questions concerning the vending operation, please contact the Purchasing Office.

## **Laundry**

For the convenience of residential students, there are two laundry facilities located adjacent to Ervin Dining Hall and in the Forest Villas Community Center open 24 hours a day. Washers, dryers, vending machines with necessary laundry products, change machines, and beverage/snack machines are available.

There are posted instructions to assist with proper machine operation, obtaining refunds, or in reporting defective equipment. Please follow these directions to help keep the laundry area as clean and efficient as possible. If it is determined that a student has damaged equipment by improper use, he/she may be personally held liable for repair. Clothing must be promptly removed to allow others the opportunity to utilize the services. The University does not assume responsibility for the loss or theft of property left in machines or on the premises. Laundry not picked up in a 24-hour period may be discarded. If you have questions concerning the laundry operation, please contact the Purchasing Office.

## **Damage/Cleaning/Missing Property/Replacement Costs**

Students must reimburse the University for any damages, repairs or missing property caused by negligence, misbehavior, and/or related to decorations. Whenever residents fail to meet cleaning standards as deemed appropriate by the University, authorized personnel will be

assigned to provide services. Residents will be assessed for services rendered. These charges may be adjusted as changes in cost to the University occur.

All residents will be held responsible for damages or violations which occur in communal areas other than a private bedroom unless a specific individual can be identified as responsible. Each student concerned will receive a bill reflecting his/her share of the charges.

Actual costs will be charged when a Service Request/Work Order is completed unless an estimate is necessary.

Invoices or bills for services, damages or fines are due upon receipt. Failure to pay a financial obligation within 14 days or the specified date as indicated on the invoice will result in the addition of a \$10 late fee.

## **JUDICIAL AFFAIRS**

The Judicial Affairs responsibility of the University rests with the Office of the Dean of Students. This office deals with cases of alleged violation of the University's Code of Student Conduct as well as with alleged violations of Housing & Residence Life policies and other University policies and procedures (see Student Rights and Responsibilities section for more detailed information).

This office has responsibility for dealing with cases of computer abuse as well as violations which may deal with student behavior outside of the classroom and off-campus in some cases. It has the authority to give sanctions for violations which range from warnings to expulsion from the University. The office adjudicates cases of alleged violations as outlined in the Code of Student Conduct with Judicial Officers and Hearing Boards. It also works with the Campus Police and other local law enforcement agencies in cases in which violations of the Code of Student Conduct are also violations of local, state and/or federal law.

## **MULTICULTURAL AND INTERNATIONAL STUDENT AFFAIRS**

The Office of Multicultural and International Student Affairs provides leadership in the University's effort to support students of under represented populations and international students, inform the University community of the values of multiculturalism, and assist in encouraging a campus environment that is conducive to diverse student learning. The purpose of the office is to amplify the academic, social, and cultural development of students as well as plan and implement programs that facilitate opportunities for self expression and cultural harmony. Activities, including lectures, forums, and cultural and social events, are open to students, faculty and staff.

The Coordinator of Multicultural Affairs serves as the adviser to the FMU Chapter of the National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC) and the Multicultural Advisory Board and is one of the University's Designat-



ed School Officers (DSO) for processing immigration documentation for international students. In addition, the coordinator works cooperatively with other campus and community organizations to foster positive and effective student-centered learning.

International students entering FMU as degree seeking or international exchange, receive support from not only the Coordinator of Multicultural Affairs, but from faculty members and staff members outside the division of Student Affairs. The coordinator provides information and guidance regarding immigration documentation, foreign work permits and general counseling. Additional information is available from the Student Affairs web page or the Office of Student Affairs at 843-661-1182.

## STUDENT ACTIVITIES

The Office of Student Activities is responsible for creating a positive campus environment that enhances and complements the academic mission of the University while providing opportunities for leadership development, involvement, recreation, and personal growth and development. All students are encouraged to become involved in one of the many student organizations (e.g., Student Government, the University Programming Board) or one of the many events throughout the year.

The Office of Student Activities is responsible for the following areas and activities: Greek Life, Student Organizations, University Programming Board, Homecoming Events (student related), Ms. FMU, and leadership programs.

### Greek Life

Being a member of a Greek organization is one way to get involved on campus. Currently FMU has 14 fraternities and sororities. Each individual group has different requirements for membership.

### Inter-Fraternity Council

Members of the Inter-Fraternity Council are Alpha Tau Omega, Kappa Alpha Order, and Tau Kappa Epsilon.

### Panhellenic Council

Members of the Panhellenic Council are Alpha Delta Pi, Kappa Delta, and Zeta Tau Alpha. Panhellenic holds formal recruitment in the fall of each year to select new members. Applications are available online at [www.fmarion.edu./students](http://www.fmarion.edu./students).

### National Pan-Hellenic Council

Sororities and fraternities require a minimum GPA between 2.3 and 2.5 and at least one semester of college credits to be considered for membership intake. Please contact the individual groups or the Office of Multicultural Affairs for academic standards and membership intake requirements.

Members of the National Pan-Hellenic Council are Alpha Kappa Al-

pha, Alpha Phi Alpha, Delta Sigma Theta, Kappa Alpha Psi, Phi Beta Sigma, Omega Psi Phi, Sigma Gamma Rho, and Zeta Phi Beta.

## Guidelines for Fraternities and Sororities

In addition to the Guidelines for University Organizations, fraternities and sororities are expected to operate according to the following:

1. **NPC Sororities** – All full-time students with an overall GPA of 2.5 are eligible for recruitment. Full-time first semester freshmen are eligible to go through the recruitment process.

**IFC Fraternities** – All full-time students with a 2.0 cumulative GPA are eligible for rush. Full-time first semester freshmen are eligible to rush the IFC fraternities.

**National Pan-Hellenic Council** sororities and fraternities require a minimum GPA between 2.3 and 2.5 and at least one semester of college credit to be considered for membership intake. Please contact the individual group or the Office of Multicultural Affairs for academic standards and membership.

2. All matters concerning the time of intake/pledgeship and initiation shall be in accordance with the regulations of the Panhellenic Council, the Inter-Fraternity Council, and National Pan-Hellenic Council.
3. The Inter-Fraternity, Panhellenic and National Pan-Hellenic Councils will inform the Dean of Students Office and Student Life of dates and times of intake/pledgeship and initiation for all fraternities and sororities. All grade release forms must be approved by the Dean of Students Office.
4. All fraternities and sororities are required to keep on file, in the Dean of the Students Office, a current list of all members, including those active and participating in intake/pledgeship, and their faculty advisers.
5. Fraternities and sororities must demonstrate in their charters, as well as in their later actions, a service as well as a social orientation. They must show promise of promoting the academic success of their members and the enhancement of the total educational mission of the University as well as the enrichment of the social life of their members.
6. At the present time there is no residential housing on campus for fraternities and sororities, nor does the University give official recognition to any such residential facilities off campus.
7. Fraternities and sororities must be open to students without discrimination with respect to race, religion or color, but fraternities and sororities may be selective in this policy. If the membership consists of a single race or religious persuasion or color, the organization will be required to show that it has not violated this rule in its recruiting practices. Federal guidelines are followed.
8. Fraternities and sororities recognized by the University must

- have full-time faculty or staff advisers nominated by the student organization.
9. If the membership of a fraternity or sorority drops below the minimum number required by the national charter, the organization will be placed on probation for one year (or semester). If at the end of the probation period their membership is still below the required number, they will be placed in the special interest group category.
  10. Membership will be open only to students classified by the Office of the Registrar as full-time undergraduates (those carrying 12 or more semester hours). No specially admitted student can pledge a Greek organization.
  11. Fraternities and sororities are expected to refrain from any form of hazing which involves physical, mental or bodily punishment. Such behavior is viewed as out-of-character for University students in that it degrades and/or demeans the individual and is in violation of South Carolina state law. Should rules governing this matter be violated, the organization may be placed on probation, its charter may be revoked and persons violating the rules may be dismissed from the University. In the event that a hazing violation occurs, the following procedure will be followed:
    - a) The vice president for Student Affairs will suspend the organization until an investigation can be conducted. The Notice of Charges will be sent via mail with copies to the president of the University, investigators, chief of Campus Police, local, regional and national offices of the organization, and any other person on campus (adviser, etc.) with an interest in the organization.
    - b) The vice president for Student Affairs will assign the Dean of Students or designee and the adviser to the Inter-Fraternity Council, Panhellenic Council or National Pan-Hellenic Council the responsibility of conducting the investigation.
    - c) A written report of the investigation will be submitted to the vice president for Student Affairs.
    - d) Sanctions, if any, will then be imposed upon the chapter. The sanctions will be sent to the organization in written form with a copy to the same individuals who received the letter stating the charges.
  12. Any commitment on the part of a fraternity or sorority for any function that commits funds above the amount of money on hand in the treasury must be approved by the IFC, Panhellenic and National Pan-Hellenic Council faculty advisers and the Dean of Students prior to any contracts being signed.
  13. Failure to abide by approved rules can result in an organization being placed on probation.
  14. All fraternities and sororities are responsible for adhering to all South Carolina laws and University regulations concerning alcohol and drugs. Organizations are encouraged to provide

educational programs for members and to support University-sponsored alcohol and drug programs held throughout the year.

## Homecoming

Homecoming Celebration is a valued and exciting tradition at FMU. The week prior to the Homecoming basketball games is filled with activities focused on Patriot Spirit. These activities may include pep rallies, friendly and spirited competitions, dances and more. The day of the games, the campus community gathers to encourage the men's and women's basketball teams and celebrate the history and traditions of FMU. During halftime, the Homecoming Queen and King are crowned before students, faculty, staff, and alumni. Be sure to get involved in Homecoming!

### Homecoming King and Queen

The Homecoming King and Queen are selected annually by the entire student body. The positions are open to any student meeting the following guidelines:

1. Candidates must be nominated by a registered student organization. Each student organization may nominate one candidate for King and one candidate for Queen.
2. All candidates must have at least a cumulative 2.0 GPA, be currently enrolled in 12 or more hours, and be in good standing with the University.
3. All candidates must attend at least four of the Homecoming activities during the week, attend the Homecoming basketball games and participate in any rehearsals.
4. The winners must attend the Homecoming Celebration on game day.
5. Other guidelines will be published on the necessary application forms.

All application forms and additional information may be obtained from the Office of Student Activities.

### Ms. FMU

The position of Ms. FMU is open to any freshman, sophomore, or junior female student who chooses to compete in the annual Ms. FMU pageant held in the spring. All Ms. FMU contestants must adhere to the following guidelines:

1. She must be a full-time student (12 hours) and be a member of the freshman, sophomore or junior class.
2. She must have attended FMU as a full-time student for at least one semester prior to the one in which she is competing.
3. She must have a cumulative GPA of 2.5.
4. She must plan on returning to FMU the following year to reign as Ms. FMU.
5. She must agree to represent FMU at various functions throughout her reign (for example, assist with local high school

recruitment, attend events in the community as needed and help with community projects sponsored through the school), and must participate in all pageant events.

6. She must assist with New Student Orientation.
7. She must also choose a community service project that she will work on throughout her reign (i.e. volunteer at the Humane Society, the Manna House, etc.). This community service project must be approved by the Office of Student Activities.

All application forms and additional information can be obtained from the Office of Student Activities.

## University Programming Board

The University Programming Board (UPB) provides opportunities for students to get involved in well-planned social, cultural, educational, and recreational activities. UPB is an excellent opportunity for students to meet new people, be creative, and have fun. The University Programming Board's campus activities are designed by students for students.

The UPB staff and student volunteers (assisted by professional staff members) plan and present programs and activities for the entire FMU community. By joining UPB, students will gain experience in programming, promotions, team building and working with others as well as acquire leadership skills, meet many interesting people and become involved on campus.

UPB is open to all students. Anyone interested in joining should stop by or call the UPB office in the University Center.

## Student Organizations

### Starting & Chartering a New Group

There are more than 60 student organizations offering opportunities for involvement for all FMU students. Types of organizations include academic, social, service, honor, and special interest. Organizations listed in this handbook represent groups registered for the previous academic year. If you cannot find an organization that meets your needs, feel free to discuss the possibility of starting a new organization with a member of the Dean of Students staff. The majority of officially recognized student organizations are considered to be "University Affiliated." The University does not sponsor or endorse activities associated with these groups. The use of the University's name in the organization's title is possible (see Guidelines for Student Organizations), as long as University sponsorship or endorsement is not implied or stated.

Organizations wishing to use the name and/or facilities of Francis Marion University must have formal approval by the University. Pending official approval, a proposed organization is permitted to meet on campus but only for the purpose of organizing. A proposed organization shall not conduct any program or activities until its charter is approved by the Dean of Students and the Vice President for Student Affairs. The request for charter approval may be obtained from the

Dean of Students Office.

The following information is required of organizations seeking to be chartered by Francis Marion University:

1. Name of the organization.
2. Statement of purpose and statement of contribution to the University community.
3. List of officers, all of whom must have a minimum grade point average of 2.0 and a list of 15 members, all of whom must be regular students with a 2.0 GPA and no more than five of whom may be transfer students or freshmen.
4. Indication of any affiliation.
5. Indication of source of financial support.
6. Proposed adviser(s), who must be a full-time member of the Francis Marion University faculty or staff.
7. Signature (15 required) of all prospective members who are full-time (those carrying 12 or more semester hours) students.
8. Groups with recognized national affiliations must meet the membership guidelines established by the national office.

If an organization is governed by a constitution or bylaws, such documents must accompany the request when submitted for processing.

A recommendation regarding approval will be made to the vice president for Student Affairs by the Dean of Students, and, in the case of an organization involving an academic area (e.g., American Chemical Society), the Provost.

## Guidelines for Student Organizations

1. Each organization must file a list of its officers with the Dean of Students Office at least once a semester. An up-to-date copy of the constitution and bylaws of each approved organization should also be filed. It is the responsibility of each organization to ensure that changes are filed when they occur. Organizations wishing to change their constitutions or effect changes in affiliation must submit these changes to the Dean of Students Office.
2. University recognition or approval of events and activities of student organizations does not indicate endorsement. Each student organization is expected to conduct its activities in such a manner as to reflect credit on the University.
3. Each organization is responsible to the Dean of Students for observances of all University rules and regulations.
4. An organization may utilize the University name in its title provided University sponsorship or endorsement is not implied or stated. If used, only the titles Francis Marion University or FMU may be utilized. The use is limited to the following examples: The Francis Marion University Chapter of (Organization Name) or The (Organization Name) Club of Francis Marion University.

5. The tax exempt status of the University does not extend to student organizations. To seek tax exempt status, organizations must follow local, state, and federal guidelines. Under no circumstances are organizations allowed to utilize the University's federal tax identification number.
6. Subject to prior reservation, student organizations are eligible to use University facilities for meetings and other functions. Reservation forms may be obtained from the Dean of Students Office. Only elected officers or members designated in writing by the president of the organization are eligible to reserve space for an organization. Certain rooms may not be available due to the type of event. All rooms must be returned to their original condition.
7. Each student organization shall submit an application for registration to the Dean of Students Office by the end of the fourth week of classes each Fall semester. This application form is available in the Dean of Students Office and must be completed fully for the organization to continue as officially recognized by the University.
8. It is the responsibility of the chief officer of each student organization to file an updated student organization report with the Dean of Students Office immediately after election of new officers, all of whom must have a minimum grade point average of 2.0.
9. Clubs and organizations are required to submit the names of one or two proposed advisers to the Dean of Students Office with the request for charter. All advisers must be full-time members of the faculty or staff.
10. Names of proposed off-campus speakers are required on the space request form submitted to the Space Committee. Even though an organization has received blanket approval for space on a regular basis, any off-campus speaker's name must be submitted two weeks in advance of the event on a separate request to the Dean of Students Office.
11. All meetings must be scheduled on the official University calendar, which is maintained in the Office of Business Affairs. This calendar is necessary in order to ensure the efficient use of time and space as well as to provide adequate publicity for activities and events. Forms for reserving time and space on the official University calendar may be obtained in the Office of Business Affairs and should be submitted in triplicate to the same office after approval by the appropriate official.
12. Student organizations may have events occurring within the same timeframe providing that the events are not considered as large events, major fund-raisers or conflict with programs sponsored by the University Programming Board, Student Government Association or any other official University

- program that requires University community participation. The Dean of Students Office will determine any exceptions.
13. Because Francis Marion University does not provide financial support for campus organizations, such organizations are expected to rely upon their own membership to meet budgetary requirements. Should an organization determine that a fund-raising project is necessary or desirable, the steps indicated below must be followed:
    - a. The project must be approved by the Dean of Students Office and the Assistant Dean of Students. All fund-raising events must be approved.
    - b. A description and adequate justification of the project should be included so that a decision can be made concerning its appropriateness as a campus activity.
    - c. Forms are available in the Dean of Students Office.
  14. Student organizations hosting a dance/party on campus must adhere to the Guidelines for Large Student Events.
  15. Francis Marion University prohibits hazing of any student. Respect for the rights, dignity, and integrity of others is essential for the well being of an academic community. South Carolina law states: It is unlawful for any person to intentionally or recklessly organize, promote, facilitate or engage in acts which cause or have a foreseeable potential for causing physical harm to any person for the purpose of initiation or admission into or affiliation with any student or fraternal organization (see Hazing Policy in Rights and Responsibilities section).
  16. If these guidelines are not followed, organizations may be placed on probation with possible loss of charter. Student organizations are also subject to the Code of Student Conduct and all other University policies and procedures.
  17. Student events designed or anticipated to include non-students must get prior approval from the Dean of Students and meet the University guidelines for facility use. All catering for the event must use FMU Dining Services unless otherwise indicated by the University.
  18. Student organizations using FMU facilities must use FMU Dining Services for any catered events.

## Events Publicity

### *Posters*

Officially registered student organizations may utilize campus bulletin boards to advertise events. Organizations must follow the guidelines contained in the Literature Distribution Policy, located in this handbook.

Special rules and regulations concerning posters, banners, and billboards for election purposes are distributed by the Election Commission Chairman when a candidate files. This permits use of additional



areas during elections that are appropriate to our general standards of campus appearance.

Off-campus organizations may bring posters to be posted in the University Center to the Dean of Students Office for approval. Other campus buildings are off limits for commercial advertisements. For details, refer to the Literature Distribution and Solicitation policies in the Rights and Responsibilities section.

### *Campus Newspaper*

Student organizations may submit information to the campus newspaper, *The Patriot*, to advertise their events. Information should be submitted at least two weeks prior to the event.

### *Bulletin Boards & Student Organization Boxes*

Student organizations wishing to post notices on bulletin boards must follow the guidelines in the Literature Distribution Policy. Each officially registered student organization may receive an information box in the University Center. All mail sent to the student organization in care of the University will be placed in these boxes. Additionally, official notices from the University and the Student Government Association will be placed in these boxes. Student organizations are required to check these boxes and remove their mail on a regular basis.

### *Computerized Sign Boards*

Announcements pertaining to the University community should be submitted in writing or via email to the Office of Public Affairs.

### *Mass Media*

Advertisements and announcements to the mass media about events that are open to the public should be coordinated through the Office of Public Affairs (see Public Information section in this handbook).

## **Guidelines for Large Student Events**

The following guidelines must be adhered to by all individuals, clubs, organizations, and offices sponsoring an event in the Smith University Center and/or other areas of campus as determined appropriate by the Dean of Students Office. All paperwork must be completed at least *two (2) weeks* prior to the event. Failure to complete and submit paperwork will result in the cancellation of the event. A Large Event Planning Packet, which includes the Facility Reservation Request, Campus Event Service Request, and Request for Police Officers forms, is available in the Dean of Students Office (Smith University Center, room 205) and should be used in planning dances, cookouts, parties, pageants, shows, concerts or other major events to be held on campus by student organizations.

1. Advertising for the event will be limited to the Francis Marion University campus only.

2. Students must present a valid FMU Card to enter the event.
3. Guests may be invited by personal invitation, must be 18 years of age or older, and must present picture identification (driver's license, University ID) prior to entry. Each FMU student will be allowed to sign-in three guests. Event sponsors are responsible for the actions of all guests.
4. A sign-in sheet must be maintained by the sponsoring organization for large events held in the Smith University Center. All sign-in sheets must be turned in to the Dean of Students Office at the conclusion of the event.
5. The maximum number of people allowed at an event in the University Center is 450. Other venues have different maximum numbers. Crowd control is the responsibility of the sponsoring organization. A detailed plan for crowd control must be submitted, along with the names of those students responsible for crowd control, with the Facilities Reservation Request form. The maximum number of people allowed in other campus venues varies and must be conformed with accordingly.
6. The organization president, adviser and crowd control designees should introduce themselves to the University Center or other facility employees and any police officers on duty prior to the start of the event.
7. Setup and cleanup of the Event Location and trash in the parking lot, which may be the result of the event, are the responsibility of the sponsoring organization.
8. Controlled substances such as alcoholic beverages and other drugs must not be served nor allowed into campus event locations or exterior spaces except in accordance with the FMU Alcohol Policy. Anyone violating South Carolina law will be dealt with in accordance with state law and University regulations.
9. During events held in the Smith University Center, guests are prohibited from being present on the second floor. Event coordinators and hosts may enter the second floor to prepare for the event.
10. The organization's faculty/staff adviser must be in attendance throughout the entire time of the event. The adviser must sign the Space Request and the Special Event/Request for Police Officer forms.
11. Security is required at all large events sponsored by student organizations in the University Center and other campus venues as deemed appropriate by the Dean of Students Office and FMU Campus Police. Campus Police, when checking the facility, must be able to identify the sponsor of the event and those providing security from the organization. Either name tags, t-shirts, etc. should be worn.
12. If an additional police presence is required, the sponsoring organization will coordinate through the Campus Police for use of off-duty certified campus police officers and pay for their services. The Special Event/Request for Police Officers form must be com-

pleted with the Space Request. The final determination of whether or not police presence is required for an event lies with the FMU Campus Police.

13. Any additional expense incurred by the University as a result of the event, such as employee wages, damages, additional cleaning costs, etc. will be the responsibility of the sponsoring organization, whether the cost is a result of member or guest behavior.
14. Facility rental fees will be applied for fund-raising events or events at which an admission fee is charged. In lieu of the normal rental fee, student organizations must donate \$100 to their scholarship fund within ten days following the event to avoid regular rental charges.
15. Scheduling large events may be limited to meet the needs of the University and is subject to the availability of University facilities, the availability of personnel, and the facility schedule. Large events are typically not allowed on subsequent days in the same facility. Typically, large events may occur during the following hours:
  - Mon.-Thur. 8 p.m.-midnight
  - Fri. and Sat. 8 p.m.-1 a.m.
16. Failure to adhere to any of these guidelines will result in the offending organization(s) being subject to disciplinary action as appropriate.

## Academic Organizations

**Ars Medica** - An organization designed to provide members with the opportunity to participate in stimulating and diversified programs with other students interested in the medical professions.

**Association of Computing Machinery (ACM)** - Students interested in the field of computer science.

**Art Guild** - To bring together those members of our University community who have an interest in the visual arts and art education in order to coordinate and initiate activities in the realm of fine arts and art education.

**Delta Sigma Pi** - A professional fraternity organized to foster the study of business in universities; to encourage scholarship, social activity and the association of students for their mutual advancement by research and practice; to promote closer affiliation between the commercial world and students of commerce, and to further a higher standard of commercial ethics and culture and the civic and commercial welfare of the community.

**Education Club** - To provide future educators with information of the education profession and to give them a voice in matters affecting their interest in the education profession.

**Honors Student Association** - To promote unity among the Honors student body at FMU and help promote participation in and completion of the Honors program by eligible students by: (a) publishing and circulating the HSA newsletter; (b) organizing social and academic events such as field trips, readings, research colloquies, etc.; (c) coordinating a “big siblings” program (an informal freshman/upperclassman peer-advising system), and other activities.

**Math Club** - The purpose of the math club is to engage students in activities outside the classroom, which have a basis in the field of mathematics. The club fosters cooperation between students, faculty, and the community that will allow the exploration of mathematical minds at Francis Marion University.

**National Art Education Association** - An organization designed to provide a smooth transition from art education preparation to professional practice, as well as to raise and maintain a high standard of quality of art education on campus and in the community. This club seeks to gain a greater insight and perspective about the teaching of art and the contemporary concepts in art education. We endeavor to promote an exchange of ideas in art education and sponsor service projects such as exhibitions, speakers, field trips and art learning experiences for the Pee Dee region and the Florence community.

**Psychology Club** - An organization designed to promote interest in and encourage exploration of psychology and its subfields.

**Sociology Club** - A club designed to promote professional sociology through group research projects, student-faculty discussions, guest lectures, and participation in intercollegiate research forums.

## Greek Organizations - Fraternities

**Alpha Phi Alpha** - A group designed to render service to the University, improve the academic standing of its members, promote friendship and welfare among its members and develop a brotherly relationship within.

**Alpha Tau Omega** - A service-social fraternity designed to assist young University men in proving their worth and to show them the goals which they are to achieve in life and to make the achievement of these goals easier.

**Kappa Alpha Order** - A service-social fraternity designed to aid members through close academic and social connections and to render assistance to the University.

**Kappa Alpha Psi** - A fraternity designed to encourage academic and social excellence as well as to improve the outlook of the University as a whole.

**Omega Psi Phi** - A fraternity which is known for its brotherhood and service to the community.

**Phi Beta Sigma** - A fraternity which promotes the ideas of brotherhood, scholarship and service.

**Tau Kappa Epsilon** - A service-social fraternity designed to promote and serve the intellectual, educational, social, and recreational benefits derived from fellowship among its members.

## Greek Organizations - Sororities

**Alpha Delta Pi** - A sorority designed to provide and cultivate high standards, scholastically and ethically, among its members. It is a service-social organization promoting unity and friendship during college and throughout life for its members.

**Alpha Kappa Alpha** - A service-social sorority designed to cultivate and encourage high scholastic and ethical standards; to promote unity and friendship among college women; to study and help alleviate problems concerning girls and women; to maintain a progressive interest in college life and to be of service to all mankind.

**Delta Sigma Theta** - A sorority designed to form a closer union among young college women for the fostering of high ideals in moral, social and intellectual life and to serve the immediate community and ultimately the larger community of the human race.

**Kappa Delta** - A sorority designed to promote social service to the community and the campus and also aid in the highest potential development of each member, both scholastically and ethically.

**Lambda Tau Omega** - A sorority designed to promote diversity and multicultural understanding.

**Sigma Gamma Rho** - A sorority whose aim is to enhance the quality of life within the community. Public service, leadership development and education of youth are the hallmark of the organization's programs and activities. Sigma Gamma Rho addresses concerns that impact society educationally, civically, and economically.

**Zeta Phi Beta** - An organization designed to uphold the highest standards of finer womanhood, scholarship, service and sisterly love.

**Zeta Tau Alpha** - An international social service fraternity for women interested in strengthening the circle of friendship, scholastic potential, self-respect and developing the complete personalities of its members. Through worthwhile service to campus and community, the sorority seeks to form a bond of lasting unity which can go far beyond college years.

## Inter-Fraternity Council

The Inter-Fraternity Council has as its purpose the regulation and coordination of all NIC fraternities on campus as well as the promotion and improvement of the fraternity system. Inter-Fraternity Council objectives are to further the standards of brotherhood, character and scholarship. The Inter-Fraternity Council strives to promote good relationships among member fraternities and to act as the liaison between the fraternities and the administration.

## Panhellenic Council

The Panhellenic Council serves as the governing body for all NPC sororities on campus. The Panhellenic Council establishes rules for recruitment, solves whatever sorority problems may arise and attempts to maintain a high level of academic and social achievements.

## National Pan-Hellenic Council

The National Pan-Hellenic organization is designed to promote unity among African American Greeks, to provide community service, to promote cultural enrichment and social interaction for the well being of its members.

## Honor Societies

**Alpha Psi Omega** - A national honorary dramatic fraternity designed to recognize and reward the academic excellence of the students participating in college theatre activities.

**Beta Beta Beta** - A national biological honor society designed to stimulate interest, scholarly attainment, and investigation of the biological sciences.

**Beta Gamma Sigma** - A national honor society for business programs accredited by the AACSB – International Association for Business Management.

**Chi Alpha Sigma** - The National College Athlete Honor Society. The organization's purposes are to encourage and reward high academic scholarship of college athletes at four-year accredited institutions; to recognize outstanding academic achievement by intercollegiate varsity letter winners; to encourage good citizenship, moral character, and friendship among the high academic achievers in college athletics; to recognize and honor the individual athlete, his/her team, sport, athletic department, and college or University; and to mentor and to provide leadership to other athletes.

**Kappa Delta Pi** - An international honor society in education designed to promote excellence in and recognize outstanding contributions to education.

**Omicron Delta Kappa** - A national leadership honor society which recognizes and encourages achievement in scholarship; athletics; social service and religious activities; campus government; journalism, speech and the mass media; creative and performing arts. Election to membership is on the basis of merit.

**Phi Alpha Theta** - The national honor society to distinguish students who excel in the study of history.

**Phi Kappa Phi** - A national honor society designed to recognize and cultivate excellence in students and faculty.

**Pi Gamma Mu** - An international honor society in social sciences designed to recognize those students with high achievement in the social sciences (economics, geography, history, political science, international relations, sociology, and psychology).

**Pi Sigma Alpha** - The national honor society in political science designed to stimulate scholarship and intelligent interest in political science.

**Psi Chi** - A National Psychology Honor Society developed to encourage, stimulate and maintain excellence in scholarship and advancement in the science of psychology.

**Rho Lambda** - A national honorary society for sorority members in the National Panhellenic Council (NPC).

**Sigma Tau Delta** - A national society designed to confer distinction for high achievement in undergraduate, graduate, and professional studies in English language and literature.

**Upsilon Pi Epsilon** - To recognize and promote outstanding academic excellence in the computing sciences.

## Special Interest Organizations

**Association for Non-traditional Students (ANTS)** - An organization designed to provide social and intellectual support for the non-traditional student.

**Baptist Collegiate Ministry** - A Christian organization of the Southern Baptist Convention designed to provide a ministry to all interested individuals in the campus community. Worship programs of music, sharing of testimonies, films, Bible study and speakers are available every Monday evening during the school year. Fellowship, mission projects, Share Team, and leadership development are available to everyone. Participation in state conventions, retreats, and summer missions service is offered.

**Campus Outreach** - An interdenominational Christian ministry which introduces Christ to students. This is done by stimulating students to think about spiritual things through Bible studies, weekly meetings and special events.

**College Democrats** - To involve students in the local and national Democratic Party.

**College Republicans** - An organization established to provide a service opportunity and an open forum for college students that share the ideals of the Republican Party.

**Culture and Language Interest Club** - Organized to promote cultural understanding, awareness, and foreign language education.

**Dimensions of Diversity Dance Team** - Organized to bring unity to students who want to be involved in supporting FMU's athletic teams in an organized manner.

**Ecology Club** - To educate students on our environment and ways to improve it. The Ecology Club strives to help students learn more about biology and its fields through speakers and field trips.

**Forum for Independent Thought** - An organization designed for students to gather and discuss issues of interest.

**Gamma Sigma Alliance** - An organization created as an open forum between the gay and "gay friendly" community and the community at large.

**Gamma Sigma Sigma** - A national service sorority with the purpose of assembling college and University students in the spirit of service to humanity and to develop friendships among students of all races and creeds. Each member of Gamma Sigma Sigma works to serve the campus, community and nation, and brings individual talents, skills, and ideas into unity with others for the common goal of service.

**Habitat for Humanity** - An organization whose goal is building or rehabilitating houses in partnership with Florence Habitat Affiliate and educating the campus about the work of Habitat. Participants gain greater awareness of the need for decent and affordable housing.

**House of Royale** - The House of Royale provides a professional institution that accommodates the interest of students in areas such as modeling, design, artistic creativity, community service, and public awareness.



**National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, FMU Chapter** - Serves as a backbone for students in civil distress.

**Residential Student Association** - The purpose of the Residential Student Association is to create a campus community by providing leadership opportunities and programs for residential students and to serve as a liaison between residential students and the administration. All residential students are *de facto* members of RSA and are welcome to become involved in leadership opportunities.

**Sister 2 Sister** - To bring unity among women on campus while better serving the community so they can establish a closer relationship with God.

**Society for the Advancement of Management (SAM)** - Providing students with practical exposure to management theory, principles, and practices.

**Student Alumni Association** - An organization designed to promote the FMU Alumni Association, develop loyalty to the University, prepare students to be informed and supportive alumni, and offer networking between students and successful graduates of FMU.

**Student Athlete Advisory Committee** - To advise the Athletic Department personnel on issues important to student-athlete welfare and advise the student-athletes on legislation issues pertaining to the Peach Belt Conference and NCAA.

**Student Media Association** - To gather students interested in a career in the mass media industry in order to learn about each area of interest and to promote interactive learning programs.

**Student Nurses Association** - A forum to discuss issues and participate in events that relate to the nursing profession.

**The RIOT Pep Club** - The RIOT is an organization designed to promote Francis Marion University Athletics, and to ignite school spirit within the student body.

**Wesley Foundation** - Designed to provide a Christian community of students, faculty and staff offering mutual support, nurturing and an opportunity to witness.

**Young, Gifted and Blessed Gospel Choir** - Designed to promote unity among the black student population. Through good use of a variety of music, YGB hopes to affect the campus and the community as messengers of cultural heritage and experience as well as ambassadors of good will.

## Solicitation on Campus by Student Organizations

Although it is recognized that the faculty, the staff, and the student body of Francis Marion University share a mutual interest in rendering support to local churches, charitable organizations, and other worthy causes, it is also recognized that unrestrained solicitation among members of the University community may bring about an unfair burden to some who may prefer not to contribute or perhaps to make their contributions in a different way.

Therefore, in the interest of maintaining the best working relationship, all University personnel and students will refrain from solicitation of any type (monies, goods, or service) while on the University campus unless the request to do so has the specific approval of the appropriate University official (see Guidelines for Student Organizations).

Francis Marion University's approval of certain fund-raising projects will allow clubs and organizations to sell approved items at a designated place in Smith University Center. The area so designated may consist of a table and chairs staffed by three or fewer members of the club or organization at any given time. The student organization may not solicit out of the designated location or take items away from the location for sale. They may advertise at designated areas on campus, using approved advertising policy as stated in the Student Handbook and sell to any student, faculty, or staff who comes to the designated area to purchase the product. All items and procedures for sale must comply with South Carolina law.

Outside vendors may only come on campus if they have an approved campus sponsor. The organization sponsoring the vendor must complete all necessary paperwork and will be responsible for the actions of the vendor (see Solicitation Policy in Rights and Responsibilities section).

## Student Health Services

The goal of Student Health Services is to promote and maintain the health of students by providing services, health education, acute and medical care, and referral assistance so that students can best meet their educational objectives.

### *Location*

FMU's Student Health Services is located in the Education Foundation Building directly west of the Francis Marion University campus on Palmetto Street. Also located in this facility is the University's Office of Counseling and Testing. Student Health Services is staffed by a certified family nurse practitioner.

### *Appointments*

Student Health Services (SHS) is open 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday while school is in session.

- Call 843-661-1844 for an appointment. The nurse practitioner will see walk-ins as time permits with preference given to those with appointments.
- If you need to cancel, please call **as soon as possible** as appointment times are limited.
- All medical records and consultations are strictly confidential. Medical records cannot be released to anyone without the written consent of the student/patient.

### *After Hours/Weekends*

For emergencies call: 1109 (on campus) or 911 (off campus). Clearly state name and specific location.

### *Services*

The following services are available through Student Health Services.

- Treatment of acute illness and injury
- Preventive care
- Laboratory testing
- Allergy injections (make appointment to discuss this with our staff; student must provide serum; maintenance injections only)
- Health education
- Referrals to area hospitals and specialists as needed

## **Insurance**

Students are strongly encouraged to carry health insurance since an unexpected illness or accident can cause financial hardships, making it difficult for students to complete their education.

Francis Marion University and Student Health Services have negotiated low rates for student health insurance through a local carrier, and information about this can be obtained through SHS or on the web at [www.studentinsurance.com](http://www.studentinsurance.com)

Students should not assume that they are covered under their parent's policy; check with parents to make sure.

Nevertheless, in the era of HMOs and PPOs when it is increasingly difficult to access adequate health care outside your service area, students are strongly urged to purchase the University's health plan regardless of any other coverage carried.

## **Costs**

There are modest fees for off-site lab testing. All fees, including those for any additional ancillary testing or referral physician visits, are the responsibility of the student receiving care.

## **Student Government Association**

Upon enrolling in Francis Marion University, all students become a member of the Student Government Association. This is the primary

organization which represents all students in planning, organizing, and directing the student organizations and programs on campus. The Student Government Association jointly participates with the faculty and administration in certain designated areas of governance of the University.

The Student Government Association is composed of three branches: the Executive, Judicial, and Legislative. The Executive branch is composed of the president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer of the Student Government Association and other appointed cabinet officers. The Legislative branch is the Senate. The membership of the Senate is composed of the vice president of the Student Government Association, who serves as the president of the Senate, and 25 senators. The Judicial branch is composed of five justices who are appointed by the president of the Student Government Association.

All students should read and know the contents and provisions of the Student Government Association Constitution, copies of which can be obtained in the SGA Office. Students are encouraged to express their interests and ideas to their elected student leaders and to become actively involved in the association. This can be accomplished in many ways, including running for various offices, serving on committees, voting in all elections or stopping by the Student Government Association Office. Francis Marion University can grow only with personal interest and involvement.

Student participation in institutional government is centered around the Student Government Association. Students, as constituents of the academic community, shall be free, individually and collectively, to express their views on issues of general interest to the student body through their governmental structure. Students, through their elected senators or appointed committee representative, have the right to participate in the formulation and application of institutional policy affecting academic and student affairs. The role of the student government including its general and specific responsibilities are made explicit. The University will provide sufficient autonomy for the student government to maintain its integrity of purpose as elected representatives of the student body.

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR INVOLVEMENT

The University recognizes the importance of a well-developed and varied program of extracurricular activities; therefore, FMU offers a variety of programs and organizations for students to join and participate in outside of class.

### University Choral Program

The University Choral Program offers two performance groups: the Concert Choir and Cut Time, the University show choir. The Concert Choir is open to all students who read music and who enjoy singing the standard classical choral repertoire. This group presents a concert each

semester. CUT TIME, the show choir, is open by audition only. Students receive one academic credit per group per semester; a total of three semester hours of credit may be applied toward graduation. Choral groups plan several off-campus performances as well as performances on campus for students, faculty, staff and the community.

For information, contact the director of the choral program in the Department of Fine Arts.

## Instrumental Music Ensembles

Francis Marion University offers three instrumental music performance ensembles: Wind Symphony, Jazz Express and String Ensemble. These are open to all students with experience on wind or percussion instruments. Academic credit is given at the rate of one hour per semester for each ensemble. A total of three semester hours of credit may be applied toward graduation. Scholarships may be available (if funded) for participation in all ensembles.

For information, contact the director of instrumental activities in the Department of Fine Arts.

## The University Theatre

The University Theatre offers three major mainstage productions annually and student-directed experimental theatre productions. Each year more than 150 students participate in theatre productions. Participation is open to all FMU students regardless of major, and no prior theatre experience is expected or required.

Admission to all productions of the University Theatre is free with an FMU (ID) Card.

For information on participation, contact the director of theatre in the Department of Fine Arts.

## Student Publications

Student publications are under the jurisdiction of a student-faculty-staff Publications Board. No student publication may be distributed on campus through University distribution facilities without the approval of the Publications Board. Publications are supervised by a staff coordinator who directs the activities of student writers and assistants.

- **The Patriot** newspaper is published regularly for the students of Francis Marion University. Students are encouraged to become involved with The Patriot and its staff of student editors, writers, photographers, and managers. A member of the FMU faculty serves as the adviser to the student newspaper which is not only a record of campus news and events but also an excellent outlet for students seeking practical journalistic experience.

- **The Snow Island Review** is a campus literary journal featuring the work of FMU students and is published on a semester basis.

## **Artist/Lecture Series**

During the academic year, Francis Marion University presents programs by outstanding artists and respected lecturers from a variety of fields for students, faculty, staff, and the community. The Artist/Lecture Series Committee, composed of student, faculty and staff members, plans these programs. All events are open and free to the public.

## **Films**

Francis Marion University sponsors several film showings each year. The FMU Cinema Series films are generally shown at 3:30 p.m. and 8 p.m. on Tuesdays. The English Department sponsors a film series usually on Mondays (while school is in session) at 3:30 p.m. and 8 p.m.

Film series showings are published in the University's events calendar which is distributed throughout campus and available online.

# INSTRUCTIONAL RESOURCES

## CAMPUS TECHNOLOGY

Campus Technology provides information technology resources and services for instructional and research missions of the University. Principally through the operations and development of the Academic Computer Center and the campus network, the department provides digital-readable content, access to that content, and guidance for its use.

### Campus Technology Center Main Laboratory

The main laboratory located in the Academic Computer Center is a general access computer laboratory open to all currently enrolled students, faculty and staff, and active alumni at FMU. Access to the laboratory requires a valid University ID card. (ID cards are obtained at the Rogers Library.)

You will need to supply your own 3 1/2" diskette, writable CD or flash drive for using most software products in the main laboratory. Media can be purchased from the Patriot Bookstore.

The most commonly used software in the main laboratory is the Microsoft (MS) Office Suite: Word, Excel, Access, and Powerpoint. Netscape and Internet Explorer are available for web browsing. There are other specialized programs available for use in the main laboratory as requested from academic departments.

The main laboratory is open during the following hours when the University is in regular session.

Monday-Thursday	8 a.m.-11 p.m.
Friday	8 a.m.- 5 p.m.
Saturday	1 p.m.- 5 p.m.
Sunday	3 p.m.-11p.m.

The main laboratory is open during the following hours when the University is in summer session.

Monday-Thursday	8 a.m.- 9 p.m.
Friday	8 a.m.- 11:30 a.m.
Saturday	1 p.m.- 5 p.m.
Sunday	3 p.m.- 9 p.m.

## Policies

### Software Piracy

The software and documents available are copyrighted products and may NOT be reproduced, in part or in whole, for any purpose.

## Acceptable Uses of the Internet

Below you will find excerpts from the Acceptable Uses of the Internet at Francis Marion University. The full text is available at [www.fmarion.edu](http://www.fmarion.edu) under the Academic Computing link.

Francis Marion University does not endorse any of the information that users may find on the Internet, nor is it responsible for it.

We expect that:

- users will obey local laws regarding the possession and use of pornography and obscenity.
- a user will protect sensitive information so that a casual user will not “stumble” upon it.
- sensitive information will be stored on University computers only until a user can move it to his or her private computer.
- a user will not display sensitive information in a public manner that is offensive.
- users will use information obtained on the Internet in a scholarly and responsible manner.
- users will represent the University well and do nothing to bring dishonor to the University.
- users who are interested in commercial/business use of the Internet will secure their own personal connection via an Internet provider.

Users will not:

- engage in any behavior that is libelous or malicious.
- use the Internet to harass others.
- steal software.
- attempt to log in to computers that they do not have permission to use.
- copy electronic property without permission.
- (make) commercial or business use of the University’s resources.

## LIBRARY

FMU’s James A. Rogers Library and its staff welcome you to the University and its quality library. Please take advantage of the varied resources and services available in the library which are designed to support your information needs and academic success.

When the University is in regular session, the James A. Rogers Library is open during the following times:

Monday-Thursday	8 a.m.-11 p.m.
Friday	8 a.m.-5 p.m.
Saturday	9 a.m.-5 p.m.
Sunday	2:30 p.m.-11 p.m.

Abbreviated evening and weekend hours are observed during summer sessions. Call 661-1311 for scheduling information when classes are not in session or visit the Library’s website at [www.fmarion.edu/academics/library](http://www.fmarion.edu/academics/library).



All areas including the PERIODICALS SERVICE DESK (REAMES WING) are open for student usage during operating hours, although Reference Service closes at 10 p.m. Sundays through Thursdays. Exception: The Arundel Room is available by appointment only (call 661-1310). Library materials may be used in any study area in the library. Please return materials to the appropriate area or to the Circulation Desk. Please do not reshelve books, microforms, magazines, or newspapers.

Students must present their FMU ID Card when checking out books, including all Reserve materials. Books from the general collection (basically the second floor) may be borrowed for a two-week period and may be renewed as often as needed, unless requested by others. Borrowing periods are reduced for materials placed on Reserve by faculty for particular class assignments.

Rogers Library provides 54 computer workstations for student use. In order to provide maximum access to the on-line catalog, to electronic indexes, and to Internet resources including full-text databases, games and chat room access are prohibited on library computers. The complete Library Computer Use Policy is available at the Reference Desk.

## **Book Drop**

In case you cannot get to the library, you may return your library books to the book drop inside the front (west) entrance to Founders Hall.

## **Theft or Mutilation of Library Materials**

Title 16, Section 13, parts 330-370 of the South Carolina Code of Laws cite theft or mutilation of library materials a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of up to \$600 or up to six months in jail. In order to assure that all library materials are available to all library users, anyone apprehended mutilating or attempting to steal library materials is prosecuted to the full extent of the law.

Other library services, policies, and procedures are delineated in the Library Handbook, which may be obtained at the Circulation, Reference, or Periodicals Services desks.

The staff of Rogers Library welcomes you to FMU and encourages you to take maximum advantage of your excellent library facility and its extensive resources and services.

## **FMU (ID) Card Services**

Each student must obtain an FMU ID Card made during the student's initial registration. The FMU ID Card is required for using Dining Services, the Library, the Media Center, the Computer Center, and the University Center. The card is made only once and remains valid as long as the student is officially enrolled and has paid appropriate fees. Lost FMU cards should be reported immediately to Student Affairs,

Rogers Library, or Dining Services as the card carries the liability of a credit card and is not transferable. After initial registration a late charge of \$15 is levied. Replacement of a lost card is also \$15 and is nonrefundable.

Lending the FMU ID Card to anyone or failure to present the card when requested by a University official is a violation of University regulations and subjects the holder to disciplinary action. In the event of a name change, the student must so advise the Registrar's Office who will update the student's computer record. An updated card can be obtained in Rogers Library at no additional charge, but library staff cannot change what is in the computer. Damaged or replacement cards are free if the old card is surrendered to the library's card services.

The FMU ID Card can only be made from a record residing in the University's central database. The library cannot input information. New students should allow at least 48 hours after all forms have been submitted and having been accepted by FMU for his or her record to appear in the database.

If you lose your FMU ID Card, you cannot check out library materials, use the meal plan, the Media Center, the Computer Center, or attend UC facilities, or go to campus dances. Go by Rogers Library during FMU ID Card services hours (Mon.-Fri. 8:30-11:30 a.m. and 2:30-4:30 p.m.; Wed-Thurs. 6-9 p.m.) and pay the charge to have the card replaced. Call 661-1300 for any questions about your FMU ID Card. A refund of funds placed on the FMU ID Card (debit account) may only be requested upon graduation or official withdrawal from the University. Requests should be submitted to the Dining Services Office in Ervin Dining Hall.

## **MEDIA CENTER**

The John K. Cauthen Educational Media Center (CEMC) is dedicated to improving teaching and learning opportunities by providing non-print resources, technological support, and media-equipped teaching and conference facilities for the faculty, students, and staff of Francis Marion University.

The Media Center provides study facilities and instruction space in the Resource Area, supplies and maintains media equipment, schedules media-equipped classrooms, provides production facilities, and hosts campus and community activities.

Students, faculty and staff, upon presentation of a valid FMU ID Card, are entitled to use its facilities.

## **Online Public Access Catalog**

The online public access catalog is the primary guide to materials in the Media Center. A professional staff member can assist in locating materials.

## Reserve Material

Some titles have been designated by professors for use in specific class assignments and have been placed on “Closed Reserve” behind the Control Center. These materials must be used in the Resource Area.

## Circulation Rules

1. Most materials and equipment are available only for use in the building. Arrangements can be made for short-term loan of materials to be used in the classroom. Professors can schedule equipment for these presentations.
2. Portable equipment used in the Resource Area such as stereo headsets, viewers, etc., can be obtained from the Control Center upon presentation of your FMU ID Card. Users are responsible for items checked out.
3. Any material may be removed from the shelf and used in the Resource Area. Users are requested not to reshelve materials but to leave them on the wheeled carts near the storage shelving.
4. If materials are damaged or if equipment does not operate properly, the user is asked to notify the person at the Control Center. Users are responsible for damage/loss of equipment and materials resulting from negligence. Repair or replacement charges will be based on current market value.

## Resource Area Hours

### Fall and Spring Semester

Monday-Thursday	8 a.m. - 9:30 p.m.
Friday	8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Saturday	9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

### Late Spring Term

Monday-Thursday	8 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Friday	8 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

### Summer I and Summer II Terms

Monday-Thursday	8 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Friday	8 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

## MATH RESOURCE CENTER

The Department of Mathematics offers a mini-lab generally in the afternoons Monday-Thursday for students enrolled in Math Lab courses, the self-paced mathematics courses Math 105S, Math 111S, Math 132S, and Math 201S. These self-paced courses have a technology lab with both VCR tutorial tapes for all courses and a computer-assisted tutorial program for the Math 105 and the Math 111 courses.

The Department of Mathematics also has created computer labs for use as a classroom and a student resource center for completion of their mathematical work. These computers contain mathematics programs (MAPLE, MINITAB, EXCEL, GEOMETER'S SKETCHPAD, etc.) to empower students in the areas of mathematics and probability and statistics.

## **TEACHING MATERIALS CENTER**

The Teaching Materials Center is available to students enrolled in the Teacher Education Program. The center provides a representative collection of curriculum materials ranging from pre-kindergarten through high school. The collection allows preservice teachers to create a broad range of lesson plans and activities.

## **TUTORING CENTER**

Tutoring is a free service provided to students. This service offers students the opportunity to seek academic assistance from trained peer tutors in all academic areas. The Tutoring Center is located in the Study Hall of the University Housing Office. Assistance is available to students on a walk-in basis or by appointment. Call 661-1675 for more information.

## **WRITING CENTER**

The FMU Writing Center is available to assist all students in improving their writing abilities and acquiring the skills needed to succeed at writing tasks in academic and professional communities. English department faculty members and trained student consultants provide one-on-one assistance on a wide range of writing tasks and projects, including research papers for all disciplines, literary analyses, creative writing, lab reports, resumes, business letters, and graduate school applications. Students are invited to meet with a consultant at any stage of the writing process for guidance on generating a topic, clarifying a thesis statement, building an argument, reorganizing paragraphs, incorporating research, revising a draft, or learning about grammatical errors. The Writing Center encourages students to use writing as a means of personal expression and as a tool for learning in and beyond the University environment.

The Writing Center offers tutoring services and writing workshops each semester. Tutorials are available by appointment or on a drop-in basis. To meet with a tutor, please call 843-661-1528 or visit the Writing Center in Founders Hall 114-C. Writing Center Consultants are also available in the evenings at the Tutoring Center, located in the Allard A. Allston Housing Office Complex.

Students are invited to visit the Writing Center's website for more information: <http://www.fmarion.edu/academics/wcenter>.

# SUPPORT SERVICES & RESOURCES

## DINING SERVICES

The Ervin Dining Hall serves hot meals daily in addition to a complete salad/sandwich bar, an assortment of beverages, and a dessert bar. Dining Services offers students a variety of meal plans from which to choose.

For more information, pick up a Dining Services brochure or contact the Dining Services Director (ext.1260).

## THE GRILLE

This one-story building is located adjacent to the outdoor swimming pool. The facility provides an additional dining option during the day and in the evening after the dining hall closes with indoor and outdoor seating available. It also has a lounge area, a small space for group use, and provides convenient access to the outdoor pool, sand volleyball court, and outdoor grilling.

## FINANCIAL SERVICES

### Facilities Reservation Requests

Any use of University space by faculty, staff, or student organizations must be cleared with the University Space Committee. The representative of the group needing space at a particular time is asked to contact the Office of Financial Services, check the University Space Calendar, and, if the calendar indicates that acceptable space may be available, file a Facilities Reservation Request. In normal circumstances when the using organization has allowed reasonable lead time in making the request, the Space Committee will act upon the request usually within a period of two weeks. Events are not approved if they are not listed on the University Space Calendar in the Office of Financial Services (SAB). Organizations are asked to make every effort to provide a minimum of two weeks notice for the scheduling of routine meetings or events. Two weeks or more notice should be given for events involving special preparation for off-campus persons. Many campus events, upon approval, are listed on the University Calendar website at <http://www.fmarion.edu/calendar>. For more information or to initiate a request for space, contact the space coordinator, ext. 1110.

## Campus Service Requests

If a particular meeting or event requires any services other than opening and closing facilities, normal seating, and regular lighting, the user group is asked to fill out the Campus Event Service Request form provided by the Office of Financial Services and return it to that office or to Facilities Management. Service requests should be submitted at least two weeks in advance; those for major events should be coordinated with the Director of Facilities Services as far in advance as possible. For any event requiring service from Facilities Management or Dining Services, the Facilities Reservation Request will not be approved until the service request has been submitted. For events in the University Center, up to 10 tables and 20 chairs can be signed out from the Information Desk without a Campus Event Service Request form.

## CRISIS COMMUNICATION PROCEDURES

Real Time Emergency Notification can provide a mechanism for campus authorities to provide guidance while an emergency is ongoing, including both information about the nature of the emergency, and actions which the community can take, such as avoid a particular area of campus, shelter in place, be on the lookout for/report the location of a missing, child, disoriented or elderly person, watch for severe weather, evacuate a particular building, class cancellation, etc. Several different communications avenues are available to notify the community of emergencies. A siren system will augment other methods of communications primarily covering outdoor spaces. The Swamp Fox Alert System will send warnings and emergency information by text-message, e-mail and voice mail to campus community members and cell phones.

- The system is designed to notify members of the campus community in a particular part of campus, such as those in a particular building, those with responsibility for particular facilities or buildings (building managers, resident staff) executive leadership, or emergency response teams.
- Communications with those who may be at home or in transit pose other difficulties as does communications with parents and others who may be worried about family members at the site.
- FMU will send text messages for emergency purposes only to cell phone numbers of those who have subscribed to the system.
- Emergency text messages should produce immediate action.
- Follow-up messages may be sent as the situation develops or concludes.

**E-Mail:** All students are required to provide a preferred, active “E-mail address” for on-line registration. This provides an avenue for contact. E-mail will continue to be one method for contacting community members in an emergency. This method will be augmented by the method listed below.

**Campus Alert Siren System:** Federal Signal siren notification system also provides a means of notifying persons outdoors of emergencies. The system has seven pre-recorded messages. There is a public address capability in the FMUPD office that allows for voice input for unusual situations from a missing child during a special event to a violent incident at a particular location. For each message the siren will “ramp up” to full volume in 5 seconds, the steady tone will play for 5 seconds and the pre-recorded message or the PA announcement will be provided twice. Siren testing will occur periodically to ensure system viability. Testing will occur in a manner that minimizes interference with classes or causes concerns to community members. Any testing would be preceded by e-mail messages to alert faculty, staff and students that a test will be conducted.

**Swamp Fox Alert:** This system provides a means of communications through text messaging and posting alerts on the FMU Website. Registered users can also provide additional e-mail addresses to which information can be sent. Text messaging is an effective and reliable means of communicating during an emergency situation and is a powerful way to reach people on the move or away from conventional media (i.e. television and radio). Text messaging makes it an ideal vehicle for communicating critical information during times of emergency.

Swamp Fox Alert notifications are divided into three categories.

- **CRITICAL ALERTS** - Emergency items that would be defaulted whenever a person signs up for the system. This category contains potentially life threatening incidents.
- **CAMPUS STATUS** - Items people could opt to receive if they so chose such as class cancellation and university closing.
- **WEATHER ALERTS** - Weather reports of an imminent nature. We will continue to send “forecasts” via the regular e-mail system but not via text or siren.

Student members of the FMU Community may subscribe to the Swamp Fox Alert system via the Swamp Fox Web on the FMU Website at [www.fmarion.edu/enrollment/](http://www.fmarion.edu/enrollment/). Members of the faculty and staff may subscribe via a direct link provided by the Vice President for Student Affairs or the Vice President for Administration. All subscriptions are purged on a yearly basis at the end of May to ensure the validity of subscriptions; new and continuing members of the FMU community are invited to re-subscribe at that time.

## CAMPUS POLICE

Safety on the University campus is a natural source of concern for parents, students and University employees. Education - the business of Francis Marion University - can take place only in an environment in which each student and employee feels safe and secure. FMU recog-

nizes this and employs a number of security measures to protect the members of its community. Although the area, with its small-town feel and neighborly attitude, is perceived to have a relatively low crime rate and because no campus is totally isolated from crime, crime prevention remains a high priority. FMU is committed to providing a safe and secure environment for our community and guests and does its part to ensure the safety of everyone. All members of our campus community share in the responsibility of making our campus a safe place to study, work, and live. The Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act report, commonly referred to as the Clery Act Report, can be accessed on the web at <http://www.fmarion.edu/about/Crimereports>. Any member of the campus community or anyone considering becoming a campus community member may obtain a printed copy of this report by contacting Campus Police at 661-1109.

FMU provides full-service police protection to the campus community through its Campus Police Department; a fully independent law enforcement agency responsible for criminal investigations, medical emergencies, and crime awareness education. The primary objective of Campus Police is to provide a safe, healthy environment that enhances the campus learning experience and complements the University's educational mission. Department police officers with comprehensive arrest powers patrol the campus and residence areas 24 hours a day. Their authority, responsibility and training are the same as required of all police officers in South Carolina. Within their jurisdiction; which includes all University-owned, -leased or -controlled property and the adjacent streets and sidewalks, University officers have the authority to enforce all state laws and University regulations. They work closely with the Florence Police Department, the Florence County Sheriff's Department and the local contingent of the State Law Enforcement Division on all incidents. The Office of Student Affairs ensures that safety/security policies and procedures are uniformly executed and conveyed in a clear and consistent manner to the student body.

Support services provided by Campus Police include: temporary vehicle registration for on-campus parking; assisting motorists with minor vehicle problems; providing crime prevention lectures and services upon request; inspecting buildings for safety compliance; providing bicycle and other property registration services; and maintaining the University's lost and found department.

## Alcohol and Drug Prevention

The University recognizes, supports and enforces all laws related to alcohol and other drugs. The University does not offer a safe haven from applicable laws of personal behavior. If you find someone who has had too much to drink, who is unconscious or unresponsive, contact Campus Police immediately for assistance. This person's welfare may be at stake and you need to obtain help quickly to avoid the person



suffering serious health consequences or even death from overindulgence. A detailed explanation of the policies governing possession, use, and distribution of alcohol and other drugs at Francis Marion University can be found in the Francis Marion University Policies, Procedures and Sanctions for Alcohol and Other Drugs available in the Office of Student Affairs. It is permissible for persons of legal drinking age (21) to consume alcoholic beverages in their on-campus apartments only. No alcoholic beverages or alcoholic beverage containers are permitted in the residence halls (no matter the age of the party) or in any public areas of the University. South Carolina statutes prohibit certain activities regarding alcoholic beverages or drugs. Convictions for law violations could result in fines, loss of driver's license and imprisonment. University sanctions could include penalties ranging from fines to suspension from the University. The FMU Board of Trustees has adopted a policy that permits the serving of beer or wine at certain University events, provided that prior approval has been obtained.

FMU is committed to work against the illicit use of drugs and alcohol among students and employees. University police officers enforce all laws and University policies concerning the purchase, possession, consumption, sale and storage of alcoholic beverages and drugs, including, but not limited to, public intoxication, driving under the influence of alcohol or other drugs; purchase of alcoholic beverages on behalf of a minor, purchase or possession of alcoholic beverages by a person under 21; selling, giving or providing alcoholic beverages to a person under 21; presentation of false or improper identification in order to obtain alcoholic beverages; distribution, use or possession of drugs, controlled substances and drug paraphernalia; possessing an open container of an alcoholic beverage in a moving vehicle or in an area where such possession is prohibited; possession or distribution of any illegal drug, as defined by South Carolina law. This activity is prohibited in any building or on any property owned or operated by the University. Possession is defined to include any area or property for which the student is responsible.

Referrals are available for alcohol or drug problems for any student at FMU. Students can obtain more information about these programs by contacting the Vice President for Student Affairs (661-1187), the nurse practitioner in Student Health Services (661-1844) or the Counseling Center (661-1840).

## **Campus Security Authority (CSA)**

In addition to campus law enforcement at FMU, a Campus Security Authority (CSA) is an individual to whom students or employees can and should report criminal offenses or he/she is an official of the institution who has significant responsibility for student and campus activities. FMU CSA positions include the director of athletics, team coaches, and faculty advisers to recognized student groups; the Provost; the Vice President for Student Affairs; the Dean of Students; the Director

of Housing; the Coordinators of Multicultural Affairs, Student Activities, International Students, Campus Recreation Services and the University Center. Crimes can be reported to anyone listed here. The CSA provides statistical information on crimes reported to him/her for inclusion in the University's annual "Clery Act Report." Statistical information will also be requested from the Florence County Sheriff's Office and Florence Police Department. The final decision about reporting the specifics of any crime rests with the person making the report. A CSA is encouraged, but not required, to recommend that the person reporting the crime to him/her also report the incident to Campus Police. The final decision about reporting the specifics of any crime rests with the person making the report.

## Crime Prevention Efforts

The active cooperation and participation of all members of our community are essential in order to successfully combat crime. One of the most effective actions anyone can take to prevent crime is to quickly report anything that appears suspicious. Reports can be made to Campus Police or to any Campus Security Authority. Further information about campus safety can be obtained on the Campus Police website: <http://www.fmarion.edu/about/Police> or by calling 661-1109.

Through a cooperative effort between Campus Police, Residence Life, and the Counseling Center, programs on personal safety and security, rape prevention and response, date rape, substance abuse, self-defense and resistance to burglary, larceny and vandalism are available throughout the school year. Each fall, Campus Police, Facilities Management and Student Affairs staffs conduct a safety and security campaign, distribute safety literature to each resident student and encourage all residents to attend hall meetings on personal safety.

Resident Assistants are encouraged to offer programs throughout the year to students in their areas on varying personal safety topics. Operation ID, a program that provides engraving and registration services for valuable personal property, is conducted once each semester in residence halls and is available on an ongoing basis through Campus Police.

The on-campus emergency number (661-1109) directly connects any phone with the Campus Police and should be used when fire, police or medical response is required. You can also dial 911 and the information will be passed to Campus Police. In addition to a telephone in each student's room, outdoor emergency call boxes located across campus provide one-button communication with Campus Police. At the main entrance of each residence hall is a phone box; dialing 1109 will reach Campus Police. From a non-campus phone, dial 661-1109. Any of these methods can be used to report suspicious incidents.

In addition to programming throughout the year, the University participates in National Collegiate Alcohol Awareness Week, a week devoted specifically to alcohol and substance abuse prevention. Through

these awareness programs, members of the University community learn more about the University's efforts to enhance their safety and become aware of their own personal stake in their own security and that of others.

## **Your Individual Role in Crime Prevention**

Although FMU works hard to ensure the safety of all individuals in the community, students and employees themselves must take responsibility for their own personal safety and that of their personal belongings. Everyone is encouraged to report crimes so an investigation can take place. The FMU Police Department encourages anyone who is the victim or witness to any crime to promptly report the incident to the police. Everyone is encouraged to report all crimes to ensure inclusion in the annual crime statistics and to aid in providing timely warning to the community, when appropriate. Because police reports are public records under state law, the FMU Police Department cannot hold reports of crime in confidence. Confidential reports for the purpose of inclusion in the annual disclosure of crime statistics can generally be made to other Campus Security Authorities as listed above. Campus Police believes that almost every violation committed on campus is avoidable. As part of the University's educational mission, Campus Police attempts to advise community members on ways to reduce their chances of experiencing crime against themselves or their property.

The FMU crime prevention program is based on two concepts. First, eliminate or minimize, whenever possible, criminal opportunities. Second, encourage everyone to be responsible for their own security and the security of others. Simple, common-sense precautions are the most effective means of maintaining personal security. Some examples of these precautions include; students walking across campus or to parking lots at night, male or female, should consider dialing 661-1109 to use the Campus Police escort services particularly if they feel "something isn't right." Students living in residence halls should keep their room doors locked at all times and should never prop open room or external doors. Residents must escort their guests at all times. Any harassing or obscene phone calls should be reported to Campus Police at once.

## **Crime Reporting**

A crime in progress, suspicious persons or activity or an emergency should be reported to Campus Police at our 24-hour number 661-1109; by pushing the button on an emergency call box located throughout campus; or by dialing 1109 from the phone boxes on the exterior of Residence Halls. Suspicious activity you may have witnessed and then justify to yourself as trivial may just be the last piece in the puzzle officers needed to solve the case. A number of crimes are solved because of the simple piece of information brought forward by a concerned citizen. Don't feel embarrassed that your information is trivial;

following up on information is part of what we do. Give us the chance to check it out. If you should witness something, don't withhold the information. Call the police as soon as you have the chance. The faster we get the information and can react to it the more likely that the crime will be solved. Use the Campus Police "***Silent Witness***" web page to anonymously report anything suspicious. Information can also be reported to on duty Resident Assistants who assist residents after normal working hours and who have radio contact with Campus Police. Off-campus crimes are reported to the Florence City Police (665-3191) or County Sheriff's office (669-3911). For any emergency, on or off campus, you can also dial 911.

Numerous efforts are made to advise community members about campus crime and crime related problems. You can find information through sources such as the University newspaper, **The Patriot**, which publishes a summary of criminal incidents; the Campus Police Web Pages or the Campus Police Open Crime Log.

## Crime Victims' Rights

The South Carolina State Constitution lists the following Crime Victims' rights.

- The right to be treated with fairness, with respect for your dignity and privacy, and informed of your legal rights.
- The right to be reasonably informed when the accused or convicted person is arrested, released from custody, or has escaped.
- The right to be informed of and present at all criminal proceedings where the defendant has the right to be present.
- The right to be allowed to submit either a written or oral statement at all hearings affecting bonds or bails.
- The right to be heard at any proceeding involving a post arrest decision, a plea or sentencing.
- The right to be reasonably protected from the accused or persons acting on his behalf throughout the criminal justice process.
- The right to confer with the prosecution, after the crime has been charged, before the trial or before any disposition and be informed of the disposition.
- The right to have reasonable access after the conclusion of the criminal investigation to all documents relating to the crime against you before trial.
- The right to receive prompt and full restitution from the convicted person or persons.
- The right to be informed of any proceedings involving post-conviction action or hearing and to be present at any hearing.
- The right to a reasonable disposition and prompt and final conclusion of the case.

## Dating Violence

FMU is committed to providing on-campus security, education, training, and victim services to combat violence against all persons. “Dating violence” is violence committed by a person who is or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the victim; and where the existence of such a relationship shall be determined based on a consideration of the length of the relationship, the type of relationship, and the frequency of interaction between the persons involved in the relationship. The FMU Counseling Center offers support and counseling for individuals who have experienced dating violence. Support may be through individual or group counseling. Counseling is also available for friends and partners of people who have experienced this kind of violence.

A student victim of dating violence has the right, in addition to filing charges through the criminal justice system, to file a complaint with the Office of Student Affairs, relative to any acts of violence toward them or another committed by an FMU student. It does not matter whether the violence occurred on or off campus since the University reserves the right to hold students accountable for certain types of off-campus behavior. Disciplinary action will result if a student’s behavior jeopardizes the educational atmosphere or mission of the institution. Examples of such off-campus behavior would include, but not be limited to, crimes of violence, sexual assault and/or alcohol or drug violations. Judicial response to referrals related to acts of dating violence can result in charges against the accused under the FMU Code of Student Conduct.

## Emergencies Involving Students

For emergencies involving students, Campus Police calls on the services of the Student Affairs staff, including the FMU Counseling Center as well as local coalitions when and where appropriate. The Victim/Witness Assistance Program is designed to lessen the impact of criminal acts on the victims and witnesses of crimes and to ensure that such individuals receive fair treatment while participating in the criminal justice system. Campus Police can outline what being a victim or witness can mean and the agencies available to assist in criminal justice procedures.

If a member of the University community has reason to believe that a student is missing, whether or not the student resides on campus, all possible efforts are made to locate the student to determine his or her state of health and well-being through the collaboration of Campus Police and the Office of Student Affairs. If the student is an on-campus resident, the Campus Police will secure authorization from Student Affairs officials to make a welfare entry into the student’s room. If an off-campus student resident, Campus Police will informally enlist the aid of the neighboring police agency having jurisdiction. Concurrently University officials will endeavor to determine the student’s where-

abouts through contact with friends, associates, and/or employers of the student. Whether or not the student has been attending classes, labs, recitals, and scheduled organizational or academic meetings or appearing for scheduled work shifts will be established.

If located, verification of the student's state of health and intention of returning to the campus is made. When and where appropriate if the need is determined, a referral will be made to the Office of Counseling and Testing and/or Student Health Services. If not located, notification of the family is made within 24 hours of receiving the initial report to determine if they know the whereabouts of the student. If the student is an off-campus resident, appropriate family members or associates are encouraged to make an official missing person report to the law enforcement agency with jurisdiction. The Campus Police will cooperate, aid, and assist the primary investigative agency in all ways prescribed by law. If the missing student is an on-campus resident, Campus Police will open an investigation as the primary investigative unit.

## **Fire Emergency**

The first rule in a fire emergency is don't panic. Become familiar with emergency exits, fire alarm and extinguisher locations in your residence and in your academic buildings. In the event of a fire, pull the nearest fire alarm to notify others, evacuate the building and call Campus Police at 1109 to ensure the alarm was received. Treat any fire alarm activation as real; don't gamble that the alarm is false. All Residence Halls are equipped with sprinkler systems, smoke detectors, fire hoses and fire extinguishers. Apartments are equipped with smoke detectors and fire extinguishers.

## **Lost and Found**

All lost and found property is returned to Campus Police for safe-keeping. Inquiries about lost articles should be made to Campus Police at 1109. Notices about lost and found property may appear in the campus newspaper or through other avenues. Items abandoned for longer than 90 days will be disposed of through various means.

## **Open Crime Log**

The University community is kept aware of reported incidents on campus through a Police crime log. Those wishing to view a hard copy of the most current information may view the crime log for the most recent 60 day period during normal business hours, usually Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. until 5 p.m. Portions of the log beyond 60 days, if not immediately available, will be made accessible within two business days of a request for public inspection. The log is open for review by anyone; however, it will not leave the premises. Notes may be taken of entry information.

## Severe Weather

**Hurricanes:** If a hurricane warning is issued that affects FMU, an evacuation of the housing area and/or University closing may be necessary. Plans are in place to evaluate all circumstances before an evacuation decision is made. Once evacuation is called for, Campus Police will coordinate efforts to notify campus residents to evacuate to the Smith University Center. After the storm, the director of the Physical Plant and the Chief of Campus Police will inspect the situation and determine if students can safely return to their residences.

**Thunderstorms:** Campus Police will notify the University community when severe thunderstorms are predicted and the weather becomes threatening. Normally, evacuation of buildings is not necessary but everyone should be aware of the dangers of going outside during this type of storm.

**Tornadoes:** Tornadoes can occur anywhere in the United States. Under a tornado watch, conditions are favorable for tornado activity. Under a tornado warning, a tornado has been sighted in our area. Campus Police will advise persons in University buildings and activate a campus wide siren. If you are in a classroom and time allows, move to a lower floor and away from windows preferably near an inside wall. For maximum protection, remain inside the building. If in the residence facilities, move away from the windows to an inside wall. Remain calm.

## Sexual Offenses

Anyone can be the victim of sexual assault. When sexual assault occurs on campus, it is a flagrant violation of the University's standards of conduct. When the assailant is an acquaintance, a survivor often has mixed feelings concerning the incident and what to do about it. Besides feeling frightened, angry, hurt and ashamed, survivors can feel betrayed and even guilty for having "facilitated" the assault. In some cases, they do not even acknowledge that they have been assaulted until long after the incident has occurred. *If you find yourself in an unwanted sexual situation, on a date or wherever, be assertive - say no. If you are told "no" when you make sexual advances, accept it. No means no!*

**Definition:** Sexual assault is any actual or attempted non-consensual sexual activity including, but not limited to, intercourse, attempted intercourse, or sexual touching by a person known or unknown to the victim. Rape is an act of sexual intercourse with a person against his or her will and consent, whether one's will is overcome by force or fear resulting from the threat of force, **or** by drugs administered without consent, **or** when a person is unconscious, intoxicated or otherwise

physically unable to communicate willingness. Having sexual relations with someone who is unable to give consent by being mentally incapacitated or unconscious (passed out) is rape.

**Getting Assistance:** Victims may be unsure of how to deal with the assault and can wonder what courses of action are available and appropriate. An unfortunate result of this insecurity is that many victims elect not to tell anyone about their ordeal and decline to seek the help they need - on a physical and emotional level - to deal with the terrible hurt they have suffered. All students, faculty and staff should be aware of both the consequences of sexual assault and the options available to the victim. Seeking assistance in connection with a sexual assault from the hospital, the police, the University or anyone else does not oblige you to take further action.

If a sexual offense should occur, the victim should: Go to a safe place; contact a friend or family member; get prompt medical attention; call the Campus Police if the incident occurred on campus; call the local police if it occurred off campus; tell someone all details you remember about the assault or write down all details as soon as possible; keep the clothes worn during the offense. If you change your clothes, place these clothes in a paper bag and give them to the police. Do not shower, bathe, or douche; do not urinate, if possible; do not eat, drink liquids, smoke or brush teeth if oral contact took place; do not destroy the physical evidence that may be found in the vicinity of the crime. If the crime occurred in your home, don't clean or straighten up until the police have had an opportunity to collect evidence.

When someone who was sexually assaulted comes to you, encourage him/her to seek medical attention, pursue counseling and report the incident. No victim should be allowed to suffer alone. If the victim does not wish to report the assault, anyone can inform Campus Police. When a third party makes the complaint, it is necessary for that individual to document the "nameless" report to Campus Police within 24 hours. FMU will work closely with the victim and will assist in changing the victim's academic or living situations if the changes are requested and are reasonably available.

**Medical Attention:** A victim of any sexual offense is encouraged to seek medical assistance. This is the first step in regaining control over your life. Even if the victim decides not to report the assault to the police, it is very important to seek medical attention immediately for possible internal injuries or sexually transmitted diseases. To keep all options available, the collection of medical evidence becomes critical in the event you choose, even later, to prosecute. At the emergency room, the doctor will collect samples: hair, semen, and other trace evidence. The hospital will collect the clothing worn during your assault so it is helpful to bring a change of clothes with you. Normally the Pee Dee Coalition against Domestic and Sexual Assault is called by the



hospital. Their representative will come to the emergency room to assist the victim. Their services are free. Going to the hospital and having evidence collected does **NOT** obligate the victim to complete other actions. This simply keeps your options open until you decide how to proceed. Options include later choosing to pursue charges against the perpetrator criminally, through the University Disciplinary System, or both.

**Counseling:** Remember, sexual assault is a crime committed against you, not by you. Do not blame yourself. Emotional trauma is severe after a sexual assault. The violation, loss of trust, and loss of control can have serious long-term impact on the victim. It is not unusual for a person to feel guilty, distrustful or withdraw from others, particularly in an acquaintance rape. There are, however, trained persons, on and off campus, who can provide counseling and support during recovery. Agencies that may be of assistance to you on campus include: Counseling and Testing 673-9707; Campus Police 661-1109; Student Affairs 661-1182; Student Health Services 673-9855; and Human Resources 661-1140. Off-campus resources include: Pee Dee Coalition 24-hour Rape and Family Crisis Line 669-4600 or 1-800-272-1820; Pee Dee Mental Health 661-4880; McLeod Regional Medical Center Family Practice Center 667-2800; McLeod Regional Medical Center Emergency Room 777-2027 or Carolinas Hospital System Emergency Room 674-5100.

**Reporting to the Police:** Following a sexual assault, victims are encouraged to make a report to campus or local police. Reporting the assault does not obligate prosecution, but it does make legal action possible if the decision to prosecute is made at a later date. The earlier an incident is reported, the easier it is to collect valuable evidence. Incidents may also be reported to any FMU CSA, the Office of Counseling and Testing, or Student Health Services. If the suspect is a student, the student victim is encouraged to contact the assistant vice president for Student Affairs immediately. Campus Police officers will aid the victim in completing the report and contacting other agencies that can help. Off-campus incidents should be reported to the local police. If the assault happens in the city of Florence or in Florence County, contact the police/sheriff at 911. Student victims who wish anonymity are encouraged to call the Pee Dee Coalition 24-hour Rape and Family Crisis Line at 669-4600 or 1-800-272-1820 for help or advice. When a sexual offense is reported, the University will make every effort to see that the victim is offered medical and psychological care as well as information about prosecuting the suspect through both University disciplinary channels and the criminal justice system. Victims have the option of keeping their report of sexual assault in complete confidence, protecting their right to anonymity, when making a report through the University's Counseling and Testing Center.

The Campus Police Department believes a victim deserves the right to a professional investigation. Victims are often confused about how to deal with their trauma. Reporting the assault to the police and obtaining medical attention are *not* synonymous with criminal prosecution. The victim retains the right not to pursue prosecution even if these steps are taken. Even if the victim decides not to pursue charges, reporting the assault is a step in regaining a sense of personal control. Providing information about the assault may help someone else avoid becoming a victim. If the offender does repeat, you may change your mind about pressing charges. If you are a victim, Campus Police will aid you in arranging for medical care, contacting counseling and other available resources. We will meet with you privately, at a place you choose to take a report and will do our best to meet your request to speak to a male or female officer. We will treat you and your case with sensitivity, and professionalism and continue to be available to you to answer questions, and explain the processes involved. We will investigate your case perhaps leading to arrest and prosecution of a suspect. Finally, we will keep you up-to-date on progress of the investigation or prosecution and your rights and options.

**Campus Judicial Proceedings:** University judicial action, criminal prosecution and civil suit are all options available to sexual assault victims. To begin University judicial action, the victim should contact Student Affairs and report the assault with a request that the assistant vice president for Student Affairs bring charges on behalf of the University. The victim may request only to receive medical and/or psychological assistance. If the student/victim does not wish any official action, that is her/his choice. Reports will be included anonymously in statistics required by the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security.

## Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act

Students accused of sexual offenses may be charged with violating FMU's Standards of Conduct. The victim is afforded special rights if the suspect is a student. The accuser and the accused are entitled to have others present during a campus disciplinary hearing. If the accused also faces criminal prosecution he/she may have the right to the presence of an attorney. If he/she chooses that option, the victim may also have an attorney present. Both the accused and the accuser are notified of the results of the campus disciplinary proceeding brought as a result of the charges. The victim is allowed to make a "victim impact statement" as part of the hearing process.

If criminal charges are pressed and the suspect found guilty, University discipline will be in line with the conviction. If charges are not pressed but the victim identifies the assailant, disciplinary action will be in line with the severity of the offense upon completion of the investigation and substantiation. Possible University disciplinary action may

be, but is not limited to: a student perpetrator living on campus may be fined, dismissed from housing, or from the University. A student perpetrator living off campus may be fined or dismissed from the University. For a faculty or staff perpetrator, disciplinary action may include termination.

There are a number of proactive measures you can take to minimize the potential for becoming a victim. Report suspicious persons to Campus Police. Let others know where you are going and when you will return. Avoid working, studying or being alone in buildings or isolated areas. If you “feel” uncomfortable - trust your feelings - contact Campus Police to be accompanied to your destination. Know where emergency call boxes are throughout the campus. Be cautious dating someone you don’t know well; get information about that person from a mutual acquaintance or try to arrange a double date or group activity. Remember that leaving a party or other social event with someone you have just met can be dangerous. Avoid excessive use of alcohol; most acquaintance rapes involve drug or alcohol use by one or both parties. Men and women should avoid excessive alcohol in dating situations. Don’t have your good judgment impaired. Do not use illicit drugs or improperly use prescription drugs; they can interfere with clear thinking and clear communication. Know your sexual desires and limitations. Communicate them clearly. Finally, walk with confidence and alertness. Assailants are less likely to target a person who appears assertive and difficult to intimidate.

Prevention, intervention and education programs specifically addressing rape, acquaintance rape and other sexual offenses are sponsored by a variety of organizations at FMU throughout the year. Programs on sexual assault occur in residence halls and the topic is addressed at freshman Orientation. The University sponsors a number of education and awareness programs regarding sexual assault. Information sessions are included in workshops such as Health Education Day, Mini-Student Health Fair, Resident Assistant and Residence Life Training and other educational programs. For more information on these programs, contact Student Affairs.

## **Sex Offender Registry and Access to Related Information**

In accordance with the “Campus Sex Crimes Prevention Act” of 2000, which amends the Jacob Wetterling Crimes against Children and Sexually Violent Offender Registration Act, the Clery Act, and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, FMU is providing information about the link to the South Carolina Sex Offender Registry. The Act requires institutions of higher education to advise the campus community where law enforcement information provided by a State concerning sex offenders can be obtained. The Act also requires sex of-

fenders already required to register in a state to provide notice to each institution of higher education in that State at which the person is employed, carries on a vocation, or is a student. In South Carolina sex offenders must register at the County Sheriff's Office for the site maintained by the State Law Enforcement Division (SLED). The web address for the SLED state Sex Offender Registry is: <http://www.sled.state.sc.us/> and allows you to search for offenders by name, city, county, or zip code. The information available includes the offender's name; sex, race, age, date of birth, height, weight, eye, hair & skin color; last reported address, any scars, marks or tattoos, aliases used; the date of conviction, the statute violated; if the offender is a predator; and a photograph if available. Information on sex offenders across the nation can be obtained through the US Department of Justice National Sex Offender Public Registry at <http://www.nsopr.gov/>. This site will also allow you to access the S.C. SLED site along with sites from a host of other states.

Pursuant to South Carolina Code Ann. Paragraph 23-3-400 et seq.: Information on all registered adult sex offenders age 17 and over is provided on the State Law Enforcement Division (SLED) Sex Offender site. Information also is provided on the site for registered sex offenders age 12-16 for committing certain offenses. Requests for information on any other registered offenders under age 17 must be evaluated to determine whether the requestor qualifies for information on additional offenses for offenders under age 17 as victims of or witnesses to the offense, public or private schools, child daycare centers, family daycare centers, businesses or organizations that primarily serve children, women, or vulnerable adults, or whether the offender, if age 11 or under, has a prior conviction or adjudication of delinquent. Completing this evaluation requires the requestor to complete and furnish a written request on a specified form to SLED or a sheriff's office. A copy of this form may be obtained online and mailed or faxed to: Sex Offender Registry, c/o SLED, P.O. Box 21398, Columbia, S.C. 29221. The fax number is 803-896-7022.

Registry information provided under law shall be used for the purposes of the administration of criminal justice, for the screening of current or prospective employees or volunteers or otherwise for the protection of the public in general and children in particular. Use of the information for purposes not authorized by law is prohibited and a willful violation with the intent to harass or intimidate another can result in prosecution.

The FMU Housing contract states that the University reserves the right to refuse a student's being admitted to or remaining in housing if the student fails to meet University requirements or to adhere properly to University policies or regulations.

## Traffic Regulations

The following information is extracted from the FMU Traffic Regulations, which can be obtained from Campus Police or is available from the Campus Police website; [www.fmarion.edu/about/police](http://www.fmarion.edu/about/police). For any specific concern or question refer to the Traffic Regulations.

Coming to Francis Marion University is fun and exciting, but parking can be a challenge, especially when the University is in session and you are trying to park immediately adjacent to a particular building. However, planning ahead can alleviate many problems frequently encountered when trying to locate a parking space on campus.

These regulations repeal and supersede all prior Traffic Codes/Regulations at Francis Marion University. The operation of motor vehicles on campus is a privilege granted by the Board of Trustees of Francis Marion University. The privilege is extended to faculty, staff, students and visitors to the campus. Failure to adhere to these regulations as well as the laws of the state may result in a warning or citation and may result in the loss of parking or driving privileges on the FMU campus. All South Carolina statutory laws apply on University property at all times. The University reserves the right to protect the safety and well being of the campus community. Students must be aware that violations of these traffic regulations are also violations of the University's Standards of Conduct; they may be held accountable under both.

Because of its status as primarily a commuter university and because there are no restrictions on the bringing of motor vehicles to campus by community members, Francis Marion University has an unusually high ratio of automobiles to students. These regulations have been designed by the Traffic Committee to provide maximum use of existing facilities and to insure safe movement of pedestrian and vehicle traffic. These regulations apply at all times.

**Application:** All students, faculty, staff, active alumni and visitors who own or drive a motor vehicle on the campus of Francis Marion University are subject to the motor vehicle laws of the state of South Carolina and University regulations. Each student, faculty, staff, or active alumni member must agree to comply with the rules and regulations set forth herein. The University reserves the right to withdraw motor vehicle privileges, parking or driving from any person at any time for cause. These regulations apply to the drivers, owners or registrants of all motor vehicles on the Francis Marion University campus and are enforced by the Campus Police 24 hours every day, unless otherwise provided in these regulations. The person registering the vehicle or, for unregistered vehicles, the owner is responsible for all citations issued against the vehicle. Vehicles that are cited for being parked illegally on campus and/or vehicles that do not display a campus registration decal will be checked by license plate numbers through the appropriate State Department of Motor Vehicles. If the license check re-

turns a registered owner with no affiliation to a campus community member the citation will be listed against the registered owner. If a match to a campus community member (faculty, student, staff, alumni, etc.) can be made by name and address then the campus community member will be listed as responsible for the citation. The University reserves the right to protect the safety and well being of the members of the campus community. Students must be aware that in those cases where violations of the traffic regulation are also violations of the Student Code of Conduct they may be held accountable under both.

**Speed Limits:** The speed limit is **10 MPH** in parking lots, parking areas and when approaching or passing pedestrians. The speed limit on all campus streets is **20 MPH** unless otherwise posted. These are maximum limits on campus. No person shall operate a motor vehicle at a speed greater than is reasonable and prudent under the actual and potential hazards then existing, even where the posted speed limit may be faster.

**Pedestrian Right-Of-Way:** Pedestrians have the right of way at all times, whether or not in marked crosswalks. Vehicles must always yield to pedestrians. Pedestrians on campus must obey applicable state laws and traffic control signals. No pedestrian shall suddenly leave a curb or other place of safety and walk or run into the path of a motor vehicle which is so close as to constitute an immediate hazard.

**Campus Vehicle Registration:** FMU campus registration is required for every vehicle driven on campus by a member of the campus community. Vehicles should be parked so that the campus decal is clearly visible. Head in parking is recommended and encouraged. Students obtain permanent registration decals at the current approved rate (\$15) from the Cashier's Office in Stokes Administration Building. Students must obtain a numbered parking decal for a vehicle registered in the student's name or parent's name or relative's name or legal guardian's name being used on campus. Permits are valid from the date of issue until Aug. 31 as indicated on the decal. All vehicles must be currently registered by that date or citations may be issued. Campus Housing Resident decals are on a white background and will display a four digit number, the letter **"R"** and the current year. Commuter student decals have a blue background and will display a four digit number and current year. Students who change status (resident to commuter or vice versa) must exchange decals at no cost. In order to obtain a free replacement decal the old decal or its pieces must be returned to the Cashier's Office. Parking decals must be displayed on the registered vehicle immediately after obtaining the registration decal. On a standard motor vehicle there are two authorized display locations for the FMU parking decal. Using the supplied adhesive decals may be permanently attached to the registered vehicle's left rear bumper OR permanently attached to the registered vehicle's exterior bottom left rear window glass. On mopeds, motorcycles and motor scooters the registration decal must be displayed in the most prominent place and must be clearly visible from

the rear. The entire parking decal identification number must be legible and visible at all times. Parking permits will not be honored unless displayed correctly.

The Cashier's Office will reissue a replacement parking decal to a vehicle that is registered in accordance with established procedures when the decal is lost, stolen or damaged. Replacement charges may apply. Unexpired parking decals remain the property of Francis Marion University. Any person to whom a decal has been issued shall remove the decal from the motor vehicle when the vehicle ownership changes, i.e. the vehicle is sold or traded, if the vehicle is destroyed in an accident, when the status of such person changes or terminates, or when the person has been denied parking privileges on campus. The entire decal must be removed from the vehicle under the conditions listed here. Changes must be reported to the Cashier's Office and Campus Police to avoid possible responsibility for violations.

**Parking permits are not transferable from one vehicle to another or from one person to another.** When a parking permit is issued to an individual, that person is responsible and accountable for that permit. He/she is responsible for all non-moving violations involving the vehicle he/she registered; regardless of who was operating it. If another operator of the registered vehicle comes forward to claim the non-moving violation, he/she will be held accountable for it. If your permit is lost or stolen, you must notify Campus Police to avoid responsibility for violations. If you change vehicles during the year or if you change status (i.e. commuter student moves into campus housing), bring the decal or its pieces to the Cashier's Office to obtain a replacement. Failure to exchange the decal subjects the registrant to traffic tickets and fines. The Cashier's Office will reissue a replacement parking decal to a vehicle that is registered in accordance with established procedures when the decal is lost, stolen or damaged. Replacement charges may apply. Should a permit become damaged or mutilated a new permit must be obtained. Bring in the damaged decal to obtain a replacement free of charge. If you fail to return the damaged decal replacement charges will apply. Unexpired parking decals remain the property of Francis Marion University. Any person to whom a decal has been issued shall remove the decal from the motor vehicle when the vehicle ownership changes (i.e. the vehicle is sold or traded, the vehicle is destroyed in an accident, the person's status changes or terminates, or when the person has been denied parking privileges on campus). The entire decal must be removed from vehicles under the conditions listed here. Changes must be reported to the Cashier's Office and Campus Police to avoid possible responsibility for violations.

**Parking:** Parking is defined as the standing of a motor vehicle, whether occupied or not. Parking must conform to the restrictions outlined in these regulations. Authorized parking areas are designated by the traffic regulation and shown on campus maps. Parking is only authorized in marked parking spaces. Authorized parking spaces incorporate white

or yellow lines on both sides of a legally parked vehicle. The lack of an available parking space is not an excuse to violate University parking regulations. The fact that a person parks in violation of any law or regulation and does not receive a citation does not mean that the law or regulation is no longer in effect and does not justify illegal parking. If you are unsure about anything involving parking please contact Campus Police at 661-1109.

**Reserved Parking Areas:** Certain parking areas, designated by official signs or blue curb markings, are reserved for individuals with disabilities, visitors, faculty, or staff. Otherwise, parking is open and unreserved. No member of the campus community may park in any space marked as “visitor” except for those at the Housing Office in Lot G during business hours.

Persons wishing to park near a University building to load/unload must inform Campus Police at extension 1109 prior to illegally parking. Permission will not be granted, or will be rescinded if the motor vehicle is parked in a manner that obstructs a fire lane, impedes vehicular or pedestrian traffic, or is parked in any other unsafe manner. Failure to notify Campus Police may result in a traffic ticket. Service and delivery vehicles may park in loading zones for up to four hours.

**Temporary Parking Permits:** You must have a vehicle registered with FMU for the current year to get a Temporary Permit for a vehicle registered in your name or a relative’s name. You can’t permanently or temporarily register a friend’s vehicle. If your campus registered vehicle is unavailable because it breaks down or was in an accident, you can get a temporary permit good for up to 10 days. You are limited to two temporary decals per semester. If your permanently registered vehicle is out of service for an extended period of time (i.e. longer than 20 consecutive days) you should remove the old decal from your vehicle and reregister a replacement vehicle at no charge. Once your regularly registered vehicle is again operational you can reverse the process. Only under unusual circumstances would a community member be able to obtain a temporary decal for a replacement vehicle when his/her permanently registered vehicle is functional. If you come in late at night or on a weekend, call 1109 and an officer will meet you to issue a Temporary Permit. **Handwritten notes will not be honored.**

**Visitor Parking:** Campus visitors are always welcome. Permanent registration is not required for visitors. However visitors should park in the appropriately marked visitor spaces or in any open unreserved parking space. Campus community members (students, faculty or staff) are not considered visitors under most circumstances and must not park in visitor spaces.

**Housing Guest Parking:** Vehicles belonging to visitors/guests of housing residents are considered non-registered vehicles. From 2 a.m. - 6 a.m. in any Housing lots east of the Fine Art’s Center (i.e. Lots F, G, and H and the parking areas around the apartments) non-registered vehicles may be cited for improper parking. Family members, friends,



non-students, and commuter students visiting any housing resident must obtain prior approval from Housing personnel through use of the Overnight Guest Visitation Form. A copy of the Overnight Guest Visitation form acts as a temporary vehicle registration for the duration of the visit and must be displayed on the front dash of the guest's vehicle. Handwritten notes will not be accepted or honored. Guests should park in regular open parking spaces.

**Study Hall Parking:** On-campus parking in the Housing area is restricted to “**RESIDENTS ONLY**”. Off-campus students, staff, faculty, visitors, and active alumni members using the Study Hall during the restricted hours (**2 a.m. - 6 a.m.**) must contact Campus Police at 1109. Failure to notify Campus Police may result in a traffic citation. Between 5 p.m. and 8 a.m. parking lots and spaces not otherwise marked or reserved are available on a first-come first-served basis. Examples of spaces that always remain reserved are handicap, EMS, Ambulance or timed loading/unloading spaces. This list is not all-inclusive and if in doubt the driver should contact Campus Police and inquire before parking.

**Motorcycle Parking:** Concrete motorcycle parking pads are located in parking lots A, C, H, and in housing and should be used for parking these vehicles. Motorcycles may park in marked parking spaces, only one unit per space, as any other vehicle. Motorcycles, motor scooters and mopeds may **NOT** be stored in buildings, or parked in breezeways, under stairs, or next to buildings on campus. Vehicles in these locations will be removed and impounded.

**Parking for Individuals with Disabilities:** Sign(s) and/or pavement markings incorporating the international disability access symbol mark accessible parking areas reserved for individuals with disabilities. Obstructing access to a parking area reserved for individuals with disabilities is prohibited. Vehicles displaying an official disability access license plate, permit or placard are the only vehicles authorized to park in these areas provided the person to whom the plate, permit or placard was issued is in/with the vehicle. Vehicles parked in spaces reserved for individuals with disabilities are required to prominently display a valid disability access parking placard or license plate issued by a state highway department. In addition to spaces specifically reserved for disability access in most parking lots, any vehicle displaying a valid state issued disability access permit may park in any marked parking space in accordance with state statute **§56-3-1960**, Free Parking. Persons with temporary impairments may obtain a time-limited disability access parking permit issued at the Office of Counseling and Testing. Temporary special parking permits may be obtained at no cost if the vehicle is currently FMU registered. The individual must present a written statement from his/her physician stating that accessible parking is required. Individuals needing accessible parking for longer than four weeks must obtain a state-issued permit from the Department of Highways and Public Transportation. Contact Counseling and Testing for further in-

formation about requirements for issue of this temporary placard. A current FMU registration decal is required in addition to a disability access-parking placard when parked in accessible parking spaces. All students must obtain a resident or commuter student permanent decal before a temporary disability access parking permit will be issued. A campus issued permit can only be used to park in on-campus spaces. Only state issued placards/plates permit parking in off-campus disabled parking spaces.

**Move In/Out:** During move in and out, selected emergency gates leading into the Village Apartment area will be opened at the direction of the Housing and Residence Life staff. Students may pull up into these access lanes and park closer to assigned apartments. Vehicles must be parked with two wheels on the same side of the vehicle on the pavement (i.e. road surface). Vehicles may NOT be parked with all wheels on the grass (i.e. not right up to the apartment door). Forest Villas Apartments emergency bollards will be lowered for moving at the direction of the Housing and Residence Life staff. Due to the limited number of emergency access points, no emergency gates will be opened in the Residence Hall area.

**No Parking Areas:** Stopping or parking is prohibited, except in compliance with a traffic order, in any of the following areas: on streets or driving lanes where parking spaces are not marked; on a sidewalk; on a pedestrian crosswalk; in or in front of a public driveway; within 20 feet of an intersection, unless marked for parking; within 15 feet of a fire hydrant; on the grass, or other non-paved surface, unless specifically authorized to do so by a Campus Police Officer; where prohibited by official signs; on or over yellow or white lines which mark parking spaces or lanes; in front of a dumpster; in front of any emergency gate traffic bollard or in a fire lane under any circumstances.

**Enforcement:** It shall be the responsibility of the Campus Police to enforce all regulations set forth herein along with South Carolina statutes. Violations of campus traffic regulations may result in the issuance of a FMU Traffic Ticket. The fine associated with the FMU ticket or the appeal as to the validity of the ticket will be handled through the campus (i.e. fines are paid or violations appealed at the Cashier's Office). The FMU Traffic Ticket does NOT result in any points against the operator's driver's license. Violations of state statutes may result in the issuance of a Uniform Traffic Ticket, Form S-438. Fines for these tickets are paid at and court appearances regarding the validity of the ticket occur through Florence County Magistrates Court. The Uniform Traffic Ticket can result in traffic point assessment against your driver's license. Any person who operates or parks a motor vehicle on campus shall obey any official traffic sign or other control device properly placed in accordance with the provisions of this regulation except when otherwise directed by a Campus Police Officer actively engaged in directing traffic on campus. Whenever a particular section of this regulation does not state that signs are required, such section is effective with-

out signs being provided. No person shall, without lawful authority, attempt to, or in fact alter, deface, injure, knock down, or remove any official traffic sign or device, or inscription shield, or insignia thereon, or any part thereof. Francis Marion University, its officers and employees shall have no liability for the care and/or protection of and assume no responsibility for damage to or loss of any vehicle or its contents at any time while it is operated or parked on campus. It is recommended that valuables not be left in unoccupied vehicles at any time and that vehicles be locked when not in use. Thefts or damages that occur should be reported to the Campus Police by dialing extension 1109. After 5:00 PM, Monday through Friday, and on weekends all marked parking spaces throughout campus revert to open parking except those set aside for short-term loading/unloading or for disabled persons. Limitations on parking in Housing between 2 a.m. - 6 a.m. remain in effect at all times.

**Violations and Penalties:** An FMU Traffic Ticket is a notice of violation of this regulation and notice of the right to appeal the citation. Payment or appeal must take place within fourteen (14) calendar days of the ticket issue date. The operator, owner or the person who registered the motor vehicle on campus is responsible for all non-moving violations incurred by the vehicle. Penalties may be in accordance with state statute, the Student Code of Conduct, the traffic regulation or any combination. Violators may be liable for both traffic fines and sanctions imposed under the campus judicial system. Campus Police Officers will issue the State Uniform Traffic Ticket (S-438) **or** FMU traffic ticket **or** warning notice for violation of traffic regulations in accordance with applicable S.C. Code of Laws and FMU regulations. Fines for campus traffic regulation violations range from \$50.00 for improper parking in a disabled space to \$5.00 for improperly displaying a campus parking decal. The majority of fines are \$15.00. A complete list can be found in the Traffic Regulation.

#### **FINE VIOLATION**

\$50.00	Improper parking-disabled
\$25.00	Alteration of, forgery of, fraudulently obtaining a vehicle registration; disregarding a stop sign
\$20.00	Failure to register your vehicle on campus
\$15.00	Blocking gates, emergency lanes, or dumpsters; Driving on or parking in a restricted area; Parking in a Visitor, Faculty or Staff space; Parking on the street or in a driveway in a parking lot; Parking in a loading/unloading zone; Parking on or over the white or yellow lines; Moving violations other than stop signs; Exceeding the marked time limits on designated spaces; Parking in the Housing area (parking areas are around the apartments, Lots F, G, and H) from 2- 6 AM without an "R" Resident

\$5.00	Decal, current Temporary Parking Permit or an Overnight Guest Visitation Pass; Boot/ Immobilization Fee (fee cannot be appealed)
	Improper Display of FMU Decal – i.e. wrong place, not permanently affixed, etc.

**Reckless Driving:** A state violation defined by S.C. Law 56-5-2920. The fine imposed will be in accordance with the state statute and could result in revocation of campus driving privileges. A FMU incident report will be completed and sanctions under the Code of Conduct may result. The traffic sanction imposed will be \$50.00 for the first violation. A second offense will result in doubling the fine. As a result of the second offense, an individual's driving history on campus will be reviewed. This review could result in revocation of campus driving privileges.

**Driving Under the Influence:** Driving under the influence of any intoxicating substance as defined in S.C. Law 56-5-2930 will result in the arrest of the offender. The sanctions imposed will be in accordance with the state statute. The driver subjects himself/herself to revocation of campus driving privileges.

All traffic tickets are due and payable within **14 calendar days after the date of the ticket**. Any person cited waives the right to appeal the ticket by paying the assessed penalty within the 14 calendar day limit. Fines must be paid at the Cashier's Office. All traffic fines not paid or appealed within **14 calendar days** of the issue date will double (only once) and the right to appeal will be forfeited. Three unpaid fines may result in revocation of campus driving privileges and immobilization or impoundment of the vehicle. Students who fail to pay his/her financial obligation to the University before the end of the semester may not be allowed to register for future semesters or secure a transcript of records until the obligation has been cleared.

**Delinquent Violations:** Persons who fail to pay the penalty assessed or who fail to initiate the appeal process within **14 calendar days** after the date of the traffic ticket have waived any right to appeal the citation. Persons with one or more past due parking citations (citations which have not been paid or appealed within **14 calendar days** of the date of violation) may not register a vehicle to park on campus until all past due penalties are paid. Persons/vehicles with three or more past due parking citations, may be prohibited from parking on campus. Immobilization or impoundment of the vehicle is possible as a result of the past due fines.

**Immobilizing, Removing and Impounding Vehicles:** In addition to any other remedy herein provided, Francis Marion University may immobilize, tow, impound and store at the owner's expense and risk any vehicle: that is parked illegally; that is presumed abandoned; that impedes vehicle or pedestrian traffic; that impedes or obstructs the movement or operation of emergency equipment; that is parked in a fire lane or by a fire hydrant; that is not properly registered to include

proper license plates and current decal or permit; that is left parked in excess of 48 hours, regardless of how or where, unless Campus Police receives notification; that is parked in such a manner as to constitute a serious hazard to vehicular or pedestrian traffic; that obstructs the collections of trash at established locations, which the owner/driver continues to park on University property after receiving at least three citations in a 12 month period. An immobilization fee of **\$15** will be assessed on a Traffic Ticket and this fee **cannot** be appealed. Owners should contact Campus Police at (843) 661-1109 to find out if the vehicle has been towed. Transportation to the wrecker service location will not be provided. Motor vehicles that have been towed and impounded will not be released until all unpaid parking citations are cleared at the Cashier's Office. The vehicle owner or operator is responsible for paying any towing and storage fees to the individual towing company. Motor vehicles impounded and not claimed may be disposed of in accordance with state statutes.

**Accidents:** Any motor vehicle accident resulting in death, personal injury or property damage shall require the operator to report such accident to the Campus Police and to comply with South Carolina law regarding motor vehicle accidents. The Campus Police will handle any charges resulting from the accident. Depending on the severity of the accident, assistance may be sought from off campus law enforcement such as the S.C. Highway Patrol.

**Traffic Barricades:** No person, other than those who by the nature of their functions are required to do so, shall operate any motor vehicle in or upon any area of the campus that is closed by the use of barricades, gates, bollards, or other traffic control devices.

**Vehicle Breakdown:** In the event a vehicle breaks down or runs out of gasoline while on campus, all reasonable steps should be taken to move the vehicle from the street or other hazardous position to a parking space. In the event that the vehicle must be parked illegally to await repairs or gasoline, Campus Police must be notified immediately. Campus Police officers can aid with minor vehicle problems such as dead battery or keys locked in the car. Campus Police can assist motorists in finding mechanical assistance for more extensive problems. Persons, who must park in an unauthorized parking area due to a mechanical failure, may obtain temporary permission from the Campus Police. Permission will not be granted, or will be rescinded, if the motor vehicle is parked in a manner that obstructs a fire lane, impedes vehicular or pedestrian traffic, or is parked in any other unsafe manner.

**Non-Motorized Vehicles and Motorcycles:** Francis Marion University recognizes non-motorized vehicles or human powered transportation devices are important and legitimate means of transportation and may be operated on campus sidewalks and paths provided they are used solely as a means of transportation and not for prohibited purposes. This section applies to such things as bicycles, unicycles, skateboards, skates and similar items. These items must be operated with

due regard and concern for the safety of the general public. Non-motorized vehicles may be operated on campus sidewalks and paths provided they are used solely as a means of transportation and not for purposes prohibited by statute or by this regulation. Pedestrians in all locations designated for pedestrian traffic shall have the right-of-way over non-motorized vehicles and human powered devices. State law governs non-motorized cycles. The cyclist has a right to use the streets and highways just as a motorist. However, the relative size of the cycle and the lack of safety devices make it extremely important that cycles be operated within the letter of the law. Cycles and cyclists shall in all respects comply with applicable state laws and regulations, including but not limited to turn signals, lighting, brakes, lane changing, etc. Bicycles may be operated on sidewalks but must yield to pedestrians and must be operated in such a manner so as not to cause a traffic hazard. Bicycles must be parked/secured in the bicycle racks provided throughout campus. Driving or storing of bicycles inside residences or buildings is prohibited. Chaining or storing bicycles to objects other than authorized bicycle racks is prohibited. Bicycles found improperly parked or secured to inappropriate objects (e.g. light poles, handrails, doors, etc.) may be removed and impounded by Campus Police. Bicycles should be registered with Campus Police, in person or through the Campus Police web pages. In the event of theft of a bicycle, the registration number will aid an investigation. Motorcycle parking pads are the authorized parking location for these vehicles. Motorcycles may not park in any area except those areas specifically designated for their use. There are motorcycle pads in parking lots A, B, C, H and in housing. Motorcycles, motor scooters and mopeds may **NOT** be stored in buildings, or parked in breezeways under stairs or next to buildings on campus. Vehicles in these locations will be removed and impounded.

**Non-Motorized Vehicles prohibited activities include:** Any acrobatic maneuver, stunt, trick riding, speed run, or other movement designed to display or demonstrate the operator's physical ability to manipulate the non-motorized vehicle, cycles or skates is prohibited on University property. Motorcycles, motor scooters, mopeds, bicycles, skates, skateboards and other similar means of transportation will **NOT** be operated within buildings or on the patio/breezeway/ramp areas of any campus buildings. Bicycles, skates, and skateboards may be operated on sidewalks provided the operator yields to pedestrians. The operators of non-motorized vehicles are responsible for controlling the speed of such device so as not to endanger any pedestrian. Any campus community member or person connected to the University violating the provisions of this regulation will be issued a campus Traffic Ticket charged with "Other Moving Violation" and fined \$15. Additionally, the violation shall be reported to appropriate authorities for administrative action as deemed appropriate.

**Access Phones/Emergency Call Boxes:** Francis Marion University has in place at a number of locations Emergency Communications de-

vices that provide immediate contact with Campus Police officers twenty-four (24) hours per day. If you have a vehicle problem or if you need help in an emergency contact Campus Police by using one of these call boxes. Refer to a campus map for the locations of these devices.

**Appeals and University Traffic FMU Traffic Ticket Committee:**

Members of the Traffic Committee serve a term of one year. The Committee shall consist of representatives from faculty, staff and/or students. The committee members elect the committee chairman. The Chief of Campus Police serves on the Committee as a non-voting advisor. This committee operates as an advisory group to the President. Recommendations are made regarding traffic control, parking, vehicle registration, violations and penalties. All recommendations are subject to the final approval of the President. The decision of the Traffic Committee on traffic ticket appeals is final. The Traffic Committee has the authority to review violations to determine whether an infraction has been committed. It also has the authority, upon review, to reduce any violation if applicable or to void any ticket where a violation of the regulations is not shown. The Traffic Committee may revoke the privilege of driving or parking on campus of any individual who grossly or repeatedly violates the traffic regulations. If privileges are revoked, subsequent operations on campus will result in charges and fines.

**Campus Traffic Ticket Appeals:** Any person feeling that his/her vehicle has been unjustly ticketed may file a written Traffic Appeal. Appeals must be received within **fourteen calendar (14) days** after issuance of the ticket or the right to appeal is forfeited. Only one appeal will be allowed per citation. The person actually in control of and/or operating the vehicle at the time it was cited must submit the appeal. The person receiving the citation will present his or her case to the committee by written explanation or in person. Appeal forms are available at the Cashier's Office in Stokes Administration Building or the appeal form may be completed on the Campus Police web page, <http://www.fmarion.edu/about/police>. The appellant need not appear if he or she does not desire to do so. If you commit yourself to appearing in person and fail to appear, then the written appeal will be reviewed by the committee and used to make a determination. The decision of the Traffic Committee on traffic ticket appeals is final. A letter indicating the final decision of the Committee will be sent to the address listed by the appellant on the appeal. If the appeal is sustained, the appellant will be notified and no further action is required. If the appeal is denied, payment of the fine must be received by the time limit outlined in the letter, or the fine imposed will double.

During vacation periods, between semesters, during the summer semesters and during periods in which the Traffic Committee is not able to convene, the Committee Chairperson or his/her designee may review all appeal cases in lieu of a full committee meeting. He/she may also call an ad hoc Committee or implement other procedures which may be necessary at the time in the interests of concluding the appeals

review process. All who habitually or flagrantly disregard these regulations may be subject to disciplinary action and/or revoked parking privileges. People who continue to park on Francis Marion University property after their privileges have been revoked will have their vehicles towed away.

## Vehicle Trouble

Officers have equipment to attempt to jump-start or unlock vehicles; however, they make no guarantee of success. This service is **FREE** but only available on and immediately adjacent to campus. If you have a problem call 661-1109, use an emergency call box or stop by the Campus Police office for help.

## Weapons Possession

Firearms and dangerous weapons of any type are not permitted in the residence halls or other University facilities, except when carried by law enforcement officers within their jurisdictions. The possession and/or use of firearms (handguns, rifles, shotguns) on campus is prohibited under state law. Violations can result in the arrest and incarceration of the violator. Intentional use, possession or sale of firearms or other dangerous weapons by students on campus is strictly forbidden and is a violation of University policy and state law. Violations can result in arrest and confiscation and/or destruction of the prohibited item. Other weapons prohibited on campus include BB guns, pellet guns, air guns, blow guns, paint ball guns, sling shots or other projectile weapons; hatchets, knives (with blades 2" or longer) or other edged weapons; bows/arrows, explosives, fireworks, chemical components expelled by compressed gases such as OC or pepper spray; impact weapons such as batons, nun chucks, slap jacks, brass knuckles or martial arts type weapons; electrical shock devices (i.e. stun guns or Taser); dangerous/noxious chemical mixtures, incendiary devices, propelled missiles or other dangerous substances. Possession of these prohibited items can result in removal from campus housing and/or suspension from the University. All weapons or prohibited items will be confiscated and may be destroyed. Approval for temporary possession or use of certain types of weapons in extremely limited and specific situations is considered on a case-by-case basis.

## Access to Campus Facilities

Except for housing, most University facilities are open to the community during day and evening hours. At 11 p.m. all gates except one are secured and access to the campus is restricted to community members and their authorized guests. Gate closing times may change during periods of decreased campus activity such as when the University is closed. When the University is officially closed, buildings are secured and only faculty, staff and pre-approved students with proper identifi-



cation are admitted. The University's trespass policy, enforced by Campus Police is as follows: only those persons having legitimate business with Francis Marion University, members of the University community and their invited guests, are permitted in a building. The University reserves the right to exclude all persons not conforming to acceptable behavior from these premises. Those who disregard this warning are considered in violation of criminal trespass under South Carolina code provisions and are liable for prosecution. Campus Police officers may serve verbal or written trespass notices to persons found to pose a threat to the community, at their discretion and may make immediate arrests of persons in secure areas for which they have no legitimate business. If a person served with a prior trespass notice reappears on campus, or if a person is found in a posted facility with no legitimate purpose in that building, he or she is subject to immediate arrest. During hours of darkness or when perimeter gates are closed and access to campus is restricted officers may stop vehicles that do not have FMU decals. These stops are to ensure that persons accessing campus are here for a legitimate purpose such as, but not limited to, a student with a temporary vehicle or a guest of a student who can provide contact information for their host. If the stopped driver cannot provide a legitimate reason for being on campus he/she will be asked to leave and return during normal business hours.

## FMU (ID) CARD

Dining Services, located in the Ervin Dining Hall, administers the FMU (ID) Card Program. Also see FMU Card in Library section.

The FMU Card is an important part of campus life providing opportunities for students to take advantage of a wide variety of services that are convenient and practical. The card allows you to:

- Check out material from the Rogers Library.
- Gain access to the Academic Computer Media Center resources.
- Take advantage of the Smith University Center services – basketball, physical fitness facilities, etc.
- Attend certain campus events, which may require presentation of the card.
- Utilize your Dining Meal Plan and debit plan.

The FMU (ID) Card is provided during initial registration at no cost and remains valid as long as you are officially enrolled. Replacement cost is \$15 per card. The fee will be waived in the case of marriage, a name change, or a defective card.

**IF YOU LOSE YOUR CARD, REPORT IT IMMEDIATELY TO THE FMU CARD ADMINISTRATOR, LOCATED IN THE ERVIN DINING HALL (EXT. 1266); LIBRARY (EXT. 1300); OR STUDENT DEVELOPMENT (1182).**

The card additionally has the capability of serving as a debit card. Deposits may be made either at registration or during the academic

term at the Ervin Dining Hall. The card provides a safe, convenient way to make purchases on campus without the need to carry cash. The Patriot Bookstore, Ervin Dining Hall, and The Grille are all equipped to receive payment from the FMU debit card. Both the Ervin Dining Hall and The Grille offer a 10% discount on all food purchases made with the FMU debit card.

Note: A refund of funds placed on the FMU ID Card (debit account) may only be requested upon graduation or official withdrawal from the University. Requests should be submitted to the Dining Services Office in Ervin Dining Hall.

The FMU (ID) Card is the responsibility of the cardholder. The holder of the FMU (ID) Card is not to provide access to the card to anyone other than the cardholder. To do so is a violation of University policy and the cardholder will be held responsible for all activity registered on the card including, but not limited to, purchases and items checked out from the Rogers Library.

For further information, call extension 1266 or refer to the FMU Card Brochure.

## **LAUNDRY**

For the convenience of residential students, two laundry facilities located adjacent to Ervin Dining Hall and in the Forest Villas Community Center building are open 24 hours a day. Washers, dryers, vending machines with necessary laundry products, change machines, and beverage/snack machines are available.

There are posted instructions to assist with proper machine operation, obtaining refunds, or in reporting defective equipment. Please follow these directions to help keep the laundry area as clean and efficient as possible. If it is determined that a student has damaged equipment by improper use, he/she may be personally held liable for repair. Clothing must be promptly removed to allow others the opportunity to utilize the services. The University does not assume responsibility for the loss or theft of property left in machines or on the premises. Laundry not picked up in a 24-hour period may be discarded. If you have questions concerning the laundry operation, please contact the Purchasing Office.

## **VENDING MACHINES**

Vending machines for beverages and snacks can be found at several locations on campus with refund information posted at each location. If you have questions concerning the vending operation, please contact the Purchasing Office.

## **PATRIOT BOOKSTORE**

The Patriot Bookstore exists to serve the textbook and supply needs

of students, faculty, and staff. Normal hours of operation are Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. In addition to textbooks, the Bookstore offers FMU apparel, greeting cards, paperback bestsellers and magazines. Also available are personal fax sending/receiving services for a nominal charge. The Patriot Bookstore is also your source of graduation supplies - caps, gowns, hoods, invitations, and University class rings.

## **University Class Rings**

University class rings may be ordered at the Patriot Bookstore with a \$75 deposit after the drop-add date of a semester in which a baccalaureate candidate has completed 87 semester hours. In no case may any student order a ring without an overall 2.0 average. Final processing of all orders, including master's degree candidates, requires approval of the Registrar's Office. If the order is not approved, the \$75 deposit will be refunded by the Patriot Bookstore.

## **TELEPHONE SERVICES**

The Office of Telecommunications, Payroll and Inventory administers campus telephone services. The University has provided a telephone in the commons area of each apartment and each dorm room. Students can use these for local calls.

If you wish to subscribe to the Student Long Distance Service, you may also direct dial long distance calls from your room. FMU has entered into an agreement with Spirit Telecom to offer long distance telephone service to resident students. To begin using your long distance service, you need to activate the authorization code you will be given when you have your FMU ID card made. Calls can be made from on or off campus at 14 cents per minute any day, any time, using the toll-free number on the back of your FMU ID (a 25 cents surcharge will be added to each call). Your account balance will be announced each time that a call is being processed. Each account has a \$150 limit, but early payment and refreshing of your balance can be arranged by calling the customer service number on the back of your FMU ID. You will receive a monthly bill directly from Spirit Telecom, and you make payment directly to Spirit Telecom. Your bill is due upon receipt. If you have failed to pay your long distance bill within 15 days, your long distance authorization code will be cut off. If your bill is not paid within 30 days, a 1.5 percent late charge will be applied. If your bill is not paid in full at that time, you may be dismissed from your dorm or apartment. You are responsible for all long distance calls that appear on your bill.

You also have a long distance credit card on the back of your FMU Card, also contracted with Spirit Telecom. You may use this card on or off campus. You will receive a monthly bill directly from Spirit Telecom, and you must pay Spirit Telecom. You cannot pay this bill with your

FMU ID Card (debit portion).

When it is determined that a University-provided phone requires service, contact extension 1392, and fill out a work order in the Housing Office.

Outdoor weatherproof telephones are located on the first floor of each residence hall. They can be used to call residents for entry into the residence halls when visiting.

## **STUDENT PAYROLL SERVICES**

If you are a student who works on campus, you will be paid on the same days as faculty/staff, (generally the 15th and the last day of the month) with a few exception dates at the end of semesters. Student time cards are submitted to the Financial Assistance Office according to the printed schedule by the supervisor. Payroll checks are picked up in the Cashier's Office with proper identification. Any questions regarding the amount of the paycheck, the number of hours, or someone else picking up your paycheck should be directed to the Office of Payroll, Telecommunications, and Inventory.

Students who have found an on-campus job will fill out the appropriate paperwork in the Financial Assistance Office. Available on-campus jobs will be posted on the bulletin board outside the Office of Career Development.

The current pay rate for Federal Work Study and Non-Work Study student employees is \$7.00 per hour.

## **PUBLIC INFORMATION SERVICES**

The Office of Public Affairs, in addition to the sports information director, is responsible for communicating the story of Francis Marion University to its various publics – on and off campus – by establishing and increasing awareness of University programs, policies, opportunities, goals, and achievements. Major functions include the areas of publications, news information services, photography, and advertising/marketing.

### **News**

To provide consistent, accurate information to the mass media, the Office of Public Affairs serves as the University's centralized source of information. In order to coordinate the flow of information, the office has established uniform procedures in preparing and releasing statements and news releases so that the media will receive an organized flow of information that is consistent in style, quality and content.

Therefore, the planning, research, writing, and distribution of news stories, University statements, public service announcements, feature articles, and other informational materials (including photographs) released to the media should be centralized in and coordinated by the Office of Public Affairs.

The office is a source for media representatives looking for faculty, staff and students to be sources of information for news stories. Public Affairs staff members often coordinate faculty, staff and student interviews in instances of direct media contact.

All University-generated news releases about programs, activities, and people of the University shall be approved in advance by the director of Public Affairs who shall consult with the president and other appropriate administrators when necessary.

In the event of an emergency, crisis, or controversy, the president may designate a spokesperson for the University. In that event, all media calls regarding that particular situation shall be referred to the spokesperson through the Office of Public Affairs.

## **Events Publicity**

The Office of Public Affairs will coordinate mass media publicity for any official University-sponsored event that is open to the public. Official student organizations or groups desiring assistance with publicity of their event(s) may contact the Office of Public Affairs.

## **Use of University Logo, Seal and Other Indicia**

Use of the University logo must follow standard guidelines of the institutional identity program. Words, letters, graphic devices and other indicia associated with Francis Marion University are protected against unauthorized use by means of usage, federal and state trade or service mark registration, and/or state statute. Questions regarding the use of Francis Marion indicia should be directed to the Office of Public Affairs.

Use of the University seal is restricted to more formal application. It is appropriate to use the seal on official and legal documents, diplomas, certificates, flags and official University ceremonial paraphernalia. The seal may never be distorted in any way and should never be used in such a manner that it gives the false impression that it is the seal of any division, department or entity within the University.

## **Production of Electronic Media**

Electronic media programs should be coordinated through the Public Affairs office in order to follow desirable uniform practices in planning, writing, producing and distributing electronic media programs to uniformly reflect the goals and image of Francis Marion University. This includes public service radio and television programs promoting the University as well as all recruiting and promotional radio and television products about the University (excluding programs produced by student media).

University events (concerts, lectures, interviews and other special events) as well as announcements can be seen on the local cable access channel, Channel 11.

## **Advertising**

All advertising in the mass media of University-generated programs and activities (with the exception of job announcements) is coordinated through the Office of Public Affairs.

## **Photography**

The Office of Public Affairs provides photographic services for use in official University publications and for news releases as deemed appropriate by the director of Public Affairs.

## **Electronic Sign Boards**

The electronic message marquee on the front lawn of the University serves to promote Francis Marion University events and activities.

The message board is for official FMU sponsored or related University functions only. The Public Affairs Office has editorial control of the message board. Students are urged to check these daily for important announcements.

# STUDENTS' RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

## CODE OF STUDENT CONDUCT

*Portions of the following materials are adapted from similar documents at The University of Maryland, The University of Tennessee, Knoxville, and other materials from sources provided by the Association for Student Judicial Affairs and its members. Definitions of cheating and plagiarism are adopted from "Student Rights and Responsibilities" (1970) the Student Handbook of the University of Kentucky, Lexington, Ky.*

### Introduction

The following policies and procedures have been developed to ensure the rights and privileges of all members of the University community, to communicate the expectations of the community to its members and to provide a basis for orderly conduct of the affairs of the University. Please refer to the definition of terms at the conclusion of this document when reviewing the following information.

### Rationale

The primary purpose for the imposition of discipline in the University setting is to protect the campus community. Consistent with that purpose, reasonable efforts will also be made to foster the personal and social development of those students who are held accountable for violations of University regulations. The University student conduct system is not analogous to the criminal justice system. The purposes, the standards of proof, the procedures and many other aspects differ.

### Interpretation of Regulations

Disciplinary standards at the University, as presented below, are described in writing in order to give students and other community members general notice of prohibited conduct. These regulations should be read broadly and are not designed or intended to define misconduct in exhaustive terms.

### Authority of the University

The University reserves the right to take all necessary and appropriate steps to protect the safety and well-being of the campus community. Any act committed by a student, whether on or off campus, which is determined by the University to be a threat to the safety or well-being of the community or which is disruptive to the primary purposes of the University may result in discipline. Student, for the purpose of this

policy, is defined to mean a person enrolled for one or more hours of academic credit, or in a noncredit course or courses offered in the name of the University; or person admitted or seeking admission to the University if action is related to University admission, function, or event. Violations by non-students may result in restricted access to campus or University events. Non-students are expected to abide by these policies as well. It is the responsibility of the student host of the non-student to make his or her guest aware of these behavioral expectations.

The classroom is an integral component of the educational community, and FMU strives to provide an environment appropriate to the University setting. Disruption of classroom instruction by students is not tolerated and will result in the removal of the disruptive student or students from class and may result in appropriate disciplinary action, to include suspension or expulsion from the University.

## Violations of the Law and Standards of Conduct

There are occasions when behavior which violates the University Standards of Conduct also violates the civil law. In these cases students should understand that they may be held accountable to both authorities. Disciplinary action for violation of the Standards of Conduct will normally proceed during the pendency of criminal proceedings and will not be subject to challenge on the ground that criminal charges involving the same incident have been dismissed or reduced.

## Standards of Conduct

Francis Marion University prohibits the conduct listed below. Persons committing such acts are subject to disciplinary action from the University.

### University Violations

1. **Academic cheating or plagiarism - Cheating** is defined by its general usage. It includes, but is not limited to, wrongfully giving, taking or presenting any information or material by a student with the intent of aiding him/herself or any other person on any academic work which is considered in any way in the determination of the final grade. **Plagiarism** involves the use of the ideas or writings of another without acknowledgment of that use. For a more detailed description of these two forms of academic dishonesty, and how allegations of academic dishonesty are handled, refer to the Academic Integrity section later in this chapter.
2. The illegal manufacture, possession, use, or distribution of drugs or the use of drugs for which the holder has no legal prescription, or other drug-related conduct which is a violation of South Carolina law. Such conduct is a University violation regardless of where it occurs on or off-campus.



3. The illegal manufacture, distribution, possession, or consumption, or being under the influence of alcoholic beverages on University property or during University activities. For purposes of this policy, a blood alcohol concentration of .08 or greater is conclusive evidence that a student is under the influence of alcohol, but a student's conduct, physical appearance, and other factors are also evidence (please refer to the University Alcohol Policy and Housing Violations for more details on alcohol issues).
4. Sexual assault or inappropriate sexual conduct.
5. Physical abuse or assault of any person, or other conduct which threatens the health or safety of any person including self.
6. Failure to comply with the directions of a University official acting in performance of his/her duty. This includes, but is not limited to, failure to report to a University office or official; after notice to do so, failure to appear for a judicial hearing or comply with a disciplinary penalty; failure to pay promptly, after notice, all University bills, fines, accounts and other financial obligations; failure to produce positive student identification upon request.
7. Theft, wrongful appropriation, unauthorized possession, or damage to property of the University (including library materials) or of any organization affiliated with the University or of another member of the University community (i.e. faculty, staff, student, or campus visitor).
8. Furnishing false or incomplete information to a University official to include, but not be limited to, providing false, misleading or incomplete information during an investigation or hearing involving an alleged violation of University policy or local, state or federal law.
9. Forgery, alteration, destruction, damage, or misuse of University documents, records or identification (e.g. FMU ID cards, library materials, etc.). FMU ID cards are the property of the University and are not transferable. Use by a person other than the authorized user is a violation of this policy, as is permitting or abetting such use.
10. Any act of arson, falsely reporting a fire or other emergency (such as the presence of an explosive or incendiary device), knowingly setting off a fire alarm or emergency call box when the student knows that no fire or emergency exists; tampering with or removing from their proper location fire extinguishers, hoses or any other fire emergency equipment except when done with an actual need for such equipment.
11. Possession, while on University-owned or -controlled property, or at University-sponsored or -supervised activities, of any weapons such as, but not limited to, rifles, shotguns, ammunition, handguns, and air guns, including explosives and incendi-

- ary devices, such as firecrackers or fireworks. Possession of pocket knives having no blade longer than two inches and possession of weapons or tools required by a student's job or studies at the location in question is not a violation.
12. Unauthorized presence in, use or entry into University facilities and/or unauthorized possession or use of keys to University facilities.
  13. Obstruction or disruption of teaching, research, administration, disciplinary proceedings, or other University activities, including public service functions, or any authorized activities on University premises.
  14. Disorderly, disruptive, lewd, indecent, or obscene conduct, or inappropriate attire that is disruptive or inconsistent for the context of the activity while on property that is owned or controlled by the University, or at events and functions that are sponsored or supervised by the University. This includes pranks and/or practical jokes that infringe upon the rights of others or have a negative impact upon the campus community.
  15. Violation of properly constituted rules and regulations governing the use of motor vehicles on University-owned or -controlled property.
  16. Violation, attempted violation, or the incitement of others to violate written University policies or regulations as herein stipulated or as promulgated and announced by University personnel.
  17. Violation, or attempted violation, of local, state or federal law, whether on or off campus, when it appears that the student has acted in a way which adversely affects, or seriously interferes with the University's normal educational function, or which injures or endangers the welfare of any member of the University community.
  18. Unauthorized use or misuse of the University's computing facilities, to include, but not be limited to, violation of the University policy on acceptable computer use (see University Policy on Acceptable Computer Use).
  19. Hazing, which is defined as: any intentional or reckless act, on or off University property, by one student, acting alone or with others, which is directed against any other student, that endangers the mental or physical health or safety of that student, or which induces or coerces a student to endanger his or her mental or physical health or safety, and includes treatment of a violent, abusive, shameful, insulting, or humiliating nature.
  20. Harassment, stalking and/or unauthorized surveillance, which includes, but is not limited to, (a) unwanted and repeated contact (after notice to desist) with another individual or group through personal contact, contact by electronic or other media; (b) other behaviors which are perceived as threatening or intended to

intimidate or induce fear; or (c) making unauthorized video or photographic images of a person in a location in which that person has a reasonable expectation of privacy, including, but not limited to, shower/locker rooms, residence hall rooms, and men's or women's restrooms, is prohibited. Also prohibited is the storing, sharing, and/or other distribution of such unauthorized images by any means. In some circumstances, such behaviors may also constitute violations of local, state, or federal laws.

21. Other conduct which a reasonable person having sufficient intelligence to acquire postsecondary education would understand is injurious to the University or the University community. This standard shall not be interpreted to infringe upon a student's constitutional rights.

### **Student Housing Violations**

The Francis Marion University Office of Housing and Residence Life prohibits the conduct listed below in and around the University residential facilities. Persons committing such acts are subject to disciplinary sanctions listed later in this document.

1. Residents assigned to a specific area (apartment, suite, residence hall floor) will be held responsible for damages or violations that occur in communal areas (living rooms, kitchens, bathrooms, hallways, lounges, computer rooms) unless a specified individual or individuals can be identified as responsible.
2. Violation of the Guest Visitation policy (see Housing and Residence Life section).
3. Inappropriate trash disposal (see Trash Disposal in Housing and Residence Life section).
4. Possession and/or use of prohibited appliances (see Appliances in Housing and Residence Life section).
5. Possession and/or use of prohibited items such as waterbeds, lofts, dart boards, public street signs, alcohol containers (in residence halls), space heaters, window air conditioners, exterior antennae or satellite dishes.
6. Use of bicycles, motorcycles, mopeds, skateboards, roller skates, or in-line skates in the residential buildings. Bicycles, motorcycles, and mopeds are not allowed to be stored in the residential facilities.
7. Damage to University or personal property or misbehavior/neglect which results in the need for unusual cleaning activities by the University.
8. Rearrangement or acquisition for personal use of University common area furnishings.
9. Delinquency in the payment of any financial obligation to include, but not limited to, utilities, telephone, fines, key charges, and other obligations.

10. Alcoholic beverages (wine and beer only) may be possessed, by those allowed by law to do so, in the University apartments. The possession of alcohol or empty alcohol containers by other persons in other areas is prohibited (see Alcohol and Other Drug Policy). Possession of distilled spirits (hard liquor) is prohibited on campus.
11. Possession of pets in or around student housing facilities.
12. Creating or contributing to excessive noise in and around the residential facilities to include common areas such as the octagon and triangle (see Noise in Housing and Residence Life section).
13. Circumvention of or tampering with any security system in the residential facilities including, but not limited to, lighting, security cameras, common area telephones, exit doors (propping open), fire fighting equipment, allowing unauthorized persons to enter the building, etc.
14. Subletting or allowing a person to reside in a residential facility other than those officially assigned to that space by the Office of Housing and Residence Life.
15. Circumvention, disregard, or failure to comply with policies and procedures of the Office of Housing and Residence Life including, but not limited to, Room Assignment, Room Change, Mail Delivery, Maintenance Services, Safety Inspections, Check In/Check Out Procedures, etc.
16. Failure to follow established fire safety procedures and policies (see Fire Emergency Section under Campus Police).
17. Possession or use of candles, incense, fireworks, or other incendiary devices in the residential facilities.
18. Entering or exiting windows, throwing items from windows or balconies, throwing items onto roofs or ledges, or accessing roofs or ledges in any way.
19. Conspiring with or enticing others to engage in policy violations.
20. Creating conditions or being involved in behavior that endangers or potentially endangers the safety and well being of self or others.

## University Disciplinary Process

The disciplinary process for students is based upon the elements of constitutional due process and local, state and federal law which have been developed over the last several decades. While University students do not give up their rights at the gates of the University, it is important to understand that the level of due process in the University disciplinary system differs from that of the legal system. The following procedures outline the University process and shall be carried out as fully as possible. Community members should be aware, however, that there are emergency situations in which these procedures may be omitted when necessary to protect public safety. Any person may refer a

student or student group or organization suspected of a violation of the code. Persons making such referrals are required to provide information pertinent to the case and will normally be expected to appear before a judicial board or judicial official as a complainant. The Dean of Students Office administers the Student Judicial Process at Francis Marion University.

## Reporting Alleged Policy Violations

Campus Police officers, Residence Life and Housing staff and other University officials are charged with the maintenance of appropriate student behavior. As a result, occasions may arise when these persons must confront students who they believe are violating University or residence hall standards of conduct. In such cases, these officials will make contact with the student whenever possible and inform him/her that they may be charged with a violation of University or student housing standards and/or with a violation of the law.

1. Campus Police officers will normally inform the student who they believe has committed an act in violation of the Code of Conduct that he/she will be contacted by the Dean of Students Office to have this alleged violation adjudicated. The officer will then prepare an incident report which will be forwarded to the Dean of Students Office for processing.
2. Housing staff will inform the student orally that he/she is being referred for an alleged violation of University or residence hall standards. These staff members will subsequently prepare a report of the incident leading to the allegation. A copy of this report will be forwarded to the Offices of Housing and the Dean of Students. Depending upon the seriousness of the alleged violation, the student will be informed by one of the above named offices to report to that office within a certain period of time for adjudication of the alleged violation. The student will be required to meet with the University Judicial Officer appointed by the Dean of Students.
3. Other community members such as faculty, administrators, or fellow students may also from time to time report alleged violations of the Code of Student Conduct to disciplinary officials of the University. In these cases, the alleged violator will receive a letter from the University judicial officer appointed by the Dean of Students.
4. Faculty - Academic Dishonesty - In cases in which a faculty member has reason to believe that a student has committed an act of academic dishonesty, it is the responsibility of the faculty member to meet with the student. The faculty member's department chair or school dean may be present at the meeting. Such an allegation should then be presented in writing by the faculty member, along with any documentation which would support the allegation, to the Provost with a copy sent to the department

chairperson. The Provost or his/her designee will contact the student and proceed as noted below.

## **Hearing Bodies and Judicial Officers**

### **Hearing Boards**

The Dean of Students Office may convene Judicial Hearing Boards consisting of students, faculty, and/or staff members for the purpose of conducting judicial hearings. Hearing Boards will conduct hearings as indicated in this section. The Dean of Students, or his/her designee, will serve as an advisor to Hearing Boards and will administer the hearing process. Decisions by Hearing Boards must be made in accordance with the FMU Student Code of Conduct and are made by a majority of the members of the board.

### **Judicial Officers**

Judicial officers are members of the Student Affairs staff who are responsible for adjudicating alleged violations of University policy. The chief judicial officer of the University is the Dean of Students, who appoints other judicial officers from the appropriate University staff. Judicial officers may assist with investigations of alleged violations of University policy, conduct initial meetings with students charged with violation policy, and preside over judicial hearings as appointed.

### **The Honor Council**

The Honor Council shall hear cases of alleged violation of Standard of Conduct 1– Academic Cheating or Plagiarism. It consists of four faculty members – three council members and one alternate – appointed by the Provost. Each hearing board of the Honor Council shall consist of three voting members. Decisions shall be based upon a majority vote of those present. The Provost’s designee will serve as nonvoting chairperson at Council Hearings.

### **Judicial Meetings and Hearings**

The University judicial officer assigned to the incident will determine if information from an incident report or resulting from an investigation indicates that a student may have been involved in a violation of policy. If so, the student will be sent a letter that includes the policy or policies that have allegedly been violated, a summation of the evidence that indicates the violation occurred, and a notice for the student to meet with the judicial officer. Judicial meetings may be arranged by telephone and verified with written notification of the meeting.

### **Judicial Meetings**

During this meeting, the judicial officer will share any information that indicates the student may have violated policy, and the student will have the opportunity to present information on their behalf.

Should the judicial officer determine that a preponderance of the evidence indicates the student is responsible for violation of policy, and the appropriate sanction does not include suspension or expulsion, the judicial officer may make a determination of responsibility at the conclusion of this meeting. If the student is found responsible, the judicial officer shall assign (a) sanction(s) appropriate for the violation (within the parameters of the sanctioning guidelines published by the Office of Student Affairs). The student is responsible for completing the sanctions as assigned within the appropriate timeframe. The judicial officer shall send the student written notification of the results of the meeting, the assigned sanctions, and provide information on the students right to appeal (see Appeals Process).

Should the appropriate sanction(s) for the offense include removal from student housing, suspension or expulsion, or should the student's prior disciplinary record establish a behavioral pattern that justifies removal from housing, suspension or expulsion, the judicial officer shall notify the student of his/her right to a judicial hearing and allow the student to accept or deny responsibility for the alleged violation(s). By accepting responsibility, the student also agrees to comply with the sanctions deemed appropriate. By denying responsibility, the student chooses to have a judicial hearing before the appropriate judicial hearing body (see Hearings).

Should the judicial officer determine that the preponderance of evidence indicates that the student did not violate policy, the case is dismissed and the related information removed from the student's record. For cases involving Standard of Conduct #1—academic cheating or plagiarism, see the section on Allegations of Academic Dishonesty.

## Hearings

Hearings are generally conducted by a judicial officer or hearing board but may be conducted by other hearing bodies (see Exigent Circumstances). Hearings for cases involving Standard of Conduct #1 are held before the Honor Council.

## Hearing Guidelines

In all cases the following procedural hearing guidelines shall be applicable:

1. The accused shall be given notice of the hearing date and the specific charges no less than three business days in advance.
2. The accused shall be given reasonable access to his/her case file, which will be retained in the office of the Dean of Students except in cases of alleged academic dishonesty, when the case file will be retained in the office of the Provost.
3. The administrative hearing officer or the board may request the attendance of any person who can give pertinent information in a case to be present at the hearing. Such requests will be person-

ally delivered or sent by campus mail, first class mail, or certified mail, return receipt requested. University employees and students are expected to comply with requests for attendance at such cases, unless compliance would result in significant and unavoidable hardship or substantial interference with normal University activities. In cases in which a witness is unable to appear, he/she may submit a statement which describes his/her testimony. Such statements will be accepted for use only if signed by the witness. The accused shall have the opportunity to refute the information in the statement.

4. The University has the obligation to notify students of charges by delivery of notice to the last known or local campus address. Students having moved and not notified the University, or those who refuse to accept delivery will not be excused from their obligation to attend.
5. Accused students who fail to appear for an initial meeting with a University official after proper notice will be deemed to have accepted responsibility for the alleged violation pending against them. In addition, they will be charged with failure to comply with the directions of a University official in performance of his/her duty. An accused student who fails to appear for a scheduled hearing will have the case heard against him/her in his/her absence.
6. Hearings will normally be closed. Only those persons directly involved with the hearing may be present. Open hearings may be requested as noted above.
7. The presiding officer of each board or the administrative hearing officer shall exercise control over the proceedings to avoid needless consumption of time and to achieve an orderly completion of the hearing. Any person, including the accused, who disrupts a hearing may be excluded by the presiding officer, administrative hearing officer, or by the board adviser.
8. Hearings will be tape recorded or transcribed. If, due to technical difficulties, a tape recording is not feasible, the chair of the board should write a summary of the testimony as soon after the hearing as is feasible in case of appeal. The decision of the board or administrative hearing officer should include a summary of the testimony and evidence in such cases as well. Deliberations in any case will not be recorded.
9. Any party to the hearing, including the board adviser, may challenge the seating of a board member due to alleged personal bias (see Student Judicial System Rights and Responsibilities ).
10. Witnesses and others giving information in a hearing shall be asked to affirm that the information they are giving is truthful. Students who provide untruthful information are subject to charges under this code.
11. Persons giving information in a hearing, excluding the accused



and the complainant and their advisors, if appropriate, will be excluded from the hearing during the testimony of other persons. All persons except board members, and their adviser if requested by the board, will be excluded during the deliberations of a board.

12. In all cases brought against a student for violation of the code the University shall be assumed to have brought the charges. Individuals who bring complaints shall be considered to be witnesses and shall be excluded as noted above except as required by law. The burden of proof is on the University.
13. Board members or the administrative hearing officer shall ask all questions of all witnesses as necessary and appropriate. If the accused wishes to have a witness answer a question, he/she shall present the question to the board or administrative hearing officer.
14. The Dean of Students may appoint a special presiding officer for boards in particularly complex cases or under other special circumstances he/she feels appropriate. Such presiding officers shall be non-voting.
15. Decisions of boards shall be by majority vote of board members in attendance.
16. The student's previous disciplinary record shall not be considered during the consideration of a particular charge. Upon a finding of responsibility against the student, the board will be informed of a student's previous disciplinary record so that it may be considered in determining the sanction.
17. The accused shall be informed orally of the decision of the board or administrative hearing officer. Such notification will be followed up by written notice from the Dean of Students or his/her designee. For cases involving Standard of Conduct #1 - academic cheating or plagiarism, the Provost or his/her designee will inform the student of the Honor Council's decision in writing.

## Appeals

Students found responsible for violations of the Student Code of Conduct may file an appeal within the following guidelines. All appeals must be based on one or more of the following conditions:

1. There was a violation of due process which materially affected the outcome of the hearing, decision, or case;
2. There is new evidence which was not available at the time of the earlier hearing or meeting or which could not have been discovered with due diligence on the part of the accused or his/her adviser;
3. The sanction assigned for the offense was grossly inappropriate based upon the seriousness of the offense.

Decisions of responsibility made by judicial officers during admin-

istrative judicial meeting may be appealed to the Dean of Students whose decision is final. Decisions of responsibility made by the Student Judicial Council, or other hearing bodies used during exigent circumstances, may be appealed to the vice president for Student Affairs, whose decision is final. Decisions of responsibility made by the Honor Council in cases involving academic cheating or plagiarism may be appealed to the president of the University, whose decision is final.

To be considered, appeals must meet the following criteria:

1. Clearly indicate the basis for appeal as indicated above;
2. Be submitted in a written format;
3. Be submitted within three business days of the delivery of the written notice of the original decision.

The person to whom the appeal is made will decide whether to hear arguments or base the decision upon the letter of appeal, any new evidence, and the case record. The person or body hearing the appeal may do one of the following:

1. Reject or amend the finding of the lower level decision maker as to responsibility of the student for the offense(s).
2. Reject or amend the sanction(s) as assigned by the lower level decision maker and assign any other sanction(s), with the exception that the sanction(s) may not be made harsher.
3. Return the case for rehearing by the lower level person or body. In such cases the person or body hearing the appeal should state the reasons for the assignment for rehearing (i.e. violations of due process). Cases reheard shall be heard completely as if never heard before.

## **Student Judicial System Rights and Responsibilities**

The following rights and responsibilities exist for students of Francis Marion University who are charged with violations of the University Code of Student Conduct Students' Rights

1. The right to written notice of the charges placed against them.
2. The right to be informed of the witnesses and/or evidence which will be used against them.
3. The right to have the case determined in a fair and impartial manner through a hearing or other judicial proceeding.
4. The right to present evidence and witnesses on their own behalf and to dispute the evidence or witnesses used against them in the case.
5. The right to have only those charges about which the student has been notified in writing heard at the hearing on those charges.
6. The right not to incriminate oneself.
7. The right to be assisted by any member of the Francis Marion University community in defending themselves against the charges placed against them. This assistance may include

helping the accused student to prepare his/her defense against the charges, attendance with the student to any meetings and/or hearings on the matter, or assisting the accused to prepare questions to ask at the hearing, etc. This person may not represent the accused at a hearing (e.g. ask questions, argue points, or even speak on his/her behalf) or other meeting.

8. If found responsible for the charges placed against him/her, the student may appeal to the next highest level person or body.
9. The right to ask questions of witnesses and others presenting information in this case. In cases in which such evidence is in the form of a statement, the student will have the right to dispute the information in the statement.
10. For a student to be found responsible for the acts alleged, the person or body hearing the case must believe him/her to be responsible for the violation by a preponderance of the evidence (the greater weight of the evidence must indicate responsibility for the violation).
11. The student is presumed to be innocent until proved responsible by the University. The burden of proof is on the University.
12. The right to notice of the maximum allowable penalty (e.g., permanent dismissal).
13. The right to a written decision specifying the rule(s) violated, sanctions assigned if found responsible, and right to appeal the decision.
14. The right to challenge the seating of any board member or other hearing officer for good cause. The dismissal of a challenged hearing board member shall be at the discretion of the hearing board chairperson. If the chairperson is challenged, he/she may be excused by a majority vote of the board. Dismissal of a hearing officer may be determined by the supervisor of the person in question. This does not apply to the faculty member who charges a student with academic dishonesty.
15. The right to be treated with respect within the student conduct process.
16. The right to request an open hearing of the charges placed against the student. Such a request may be granted if agreed to by all parties directly involved in the case; if the hearing would not, in the opinion of the assistant vice president, be disruptive to the campus environment; and attendance can be limited as a result of the facility in which the hearing is being held.

### **Student Responsibilities**

1. The responsibility to attend all hearings or meetings when scheduled.
2. The responsibility to take receipt of any notices or other written documents related to the charges against the student.
3. The responsibility to avoid any acts by him/herself or others at

his/her direction which threaten, or may appear to threaten, witnesses or others who might give information in the case.

4. Any appeals must be submitted within stated deadlines and must address one or more of the bases of appeal noted above in order to be valid. Failure to submit an appeal in a timely way voids the right to appeal.
5. The responsibility to treat those persons involved in the judicial process with respect.
6. The responsibility to comply with the requests of University officials who are part of the student conduct process.
7. The responsibility to comply with any sanctions placed against the student as a result of the charges for which he/she is found responsible, and to understand that failure to comply is a separate offense for which the student may be charged.

## General Sanctions

One or more of the following sanctions may be determined as appropriate for violation of the Code of Student Conduct. Normally there will be a presumptive sanction for each offense; however, sanctions may be altered due to mitigating or aggravating circumstances for each violation. Multiple offenses, previous offenses, violations of probation and other factors may alter the appropriate sanction for a particular offense. Students should be aware that expulsion from the University may be appropriate for any offense if aggravating circumstances apply.

1. **Expulsion** - Permanent, forced withdrawal from the University. The student will forfeit all fees paid for the semester in question.
2. **Indefinite Suspension** - Forced withdrawal from the University for an indefinite period of time. The student will be required to complete specified tasks prior to consideration for reinstatement. The student will forfeit all fees paid for the semester in question. Students may not have transcripts, grades or other University records of attendance sent to other persons during the period of the suspension. The student may not have credit for courses taken at other institutions during the period of suspension transferred back to Francis Marion University for credit without the permission of the vice president for Student Affairs.
3. **Suspension** - Forced withdrawal from the University for a specified period of time. Generally no less than one semester. The student will forfeit all fees paid for the semester in question. Suspension may be deferred pending appropriate completion of tasks assigned by the disciplinary authority. Students may not have transcripts, grades or other University records of attendance sent to other persons during the period of the suspension. The student may not have credit for courses taken at other institutions during the period of suspension transferred back to Francis Marion University for credit without the permission of the vice president for Student Affairs.

4. **Disciplinary Probation** - The student will be placed on social and/or behavioral restrictions for a period of time. Any violation of the terms of probation during the specified period will be deemed as a separate offense for which suspension is the appropriate sanction. Restrictions to be included within disciplinary probation will be determined based upon the particular offense and the disciplinary record of the offender. Sanctions for policy violations that occur while a student is on disciplinary probation are enhanced.
5. **Fines** - The student will be charged a specified fine as deemed appropriate for the particular offense. Fines may be adjusted due to mitigating or aggravating factors with each offense. Fines will be used only in limited circumstances in which the hearing officer or board feels that they will be educational in nature. Failure to pay fines by a specified date will be deemed a separate offense and may result in increased fines and/or more severe sanctions as described above.
6. **Judicial Assignment** - The student will be assigned to complete a specified task or number of hours of work on a project designed to ensure some form of retribution to the University. Failure to complete the judicial assignment by a specified date will be deemed a separate offense and may result in more severe sanctions as described above.
7. **Written Reprimand** - The student will receive a written notice that he/she has committed an offense. A copy of the notice will become an official part of the student's disciplinary record.
8. **Admonition** - The student will be provided an admonition. A notice of the admonition will be entered in the student's disciplinary record.
9. **Educational Sanction** - The student will be assigned a project which is deemed appropriate to the offense for which he/she is found responsible. This may include but not be limited to mediation or other alternative dispute resolution, writing projects such as papers on a topic related to the offense, public speaking assignments, educational workshops such as alcohol or drug education programs, and other projects.
10. **Removal from Residential Facilities** - If a student is currently living in a residence hall or apartment, he/she may be removed from residence for a specified or indeterminate period of time depending upon the offense. In cases of eviction, the student will forfeit all fees paid.
11. **Loss of Participation Privileges** - The student will lose his/her privilege of participating in one or more activities such as loss of visitation, loss of vehicle use, loss of intramural participation, loss of co-curricular involvement such as student organization membership/leadership, varsity athletics, or access to non-essential facilities, etc.

## Parent/Guardian Notification of Alcohol or Drug Policy Violations

Section 444 of the General Education Provisions Act (20 U.S.C. 1232g) was amended by Congress in 1998 to authorize University officials to notify parents or guardians when students have violated alcohol or drug policies. Effective August 1, 2000, Francis Marion University will implement the following criteria for parent/guardian notification.

A student's parent or guardian may be notified about a student's involvement in an incident involving alcohol or a controlled substance when the following criteria are met:

1. The student has either accepted responsibility or has been found responsible for violation of University alcohol and drug policy through the University student disciplinary system.
2. The student was under 21 years of age at the time he or she was found responsible for violating University alcohol or drug policy.

Once the above criteria have been met, the Dean of Students Office may notify the official parent or guardian of record for the student of the violation and resulting sanctions. Notification will be in the form of a letter, a copy of which will be placed in the student's disciplinary file. If the incident in question placed the student at risk, the University may contact the parent or guardian of record prior to any finding of responsibility. Additionally, if the University becomes aware of exigent circumstances that indicate notification is not in the best interest of both the University and the student, notification may be waived by the Dean of Students.

## ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

A primary responsibility of an instructor is to certify that a specific academic assignment has been mastered sufficiently to merit college credit. An inseparable part of this responsibility is to take all possible precautions to ensure that the credit has not been attained by fraud. The instructor should rigorously enforce honesty concerning all academic work submitted by his/her students for evaluation.

While it is difficult to define precisely and all inclusively all aspects of academic dishonesty, the following statements should serve as a guide.

- a) All academic work, written or otherwise submitted by a student to his/her instructor or other academic supervisor, is expected to be the result of his/her own thought, research, or self-expression. In any case in which a student feels unsure about a question of plagiarism involving his/her work, he/she is obliged to consult the instructor on the matter before submitting it.
- b) When a student submits work purported to be his/her own, but which in any way borrows ideas, organization, wording, or anything else from another source without appropriate

- acknowledgments of the fact, the student is guilty of plagiarism.
- c) Plagiarism includes reproducing someone else's work, whether it be a published article, chapter of a book, a paper from a friend or material found on the internet. Plagiarism also includes the practice of employing or allowing another person to alter or revise the work which a student submits as his/her own, whoever the other person may be. Students may discuss assignments among themselves or with an instructor or tutor, but the actual work must be done by the student alone unless explicit permission is otherwise given by the instructor.
  - d) When a student's assignment involves research in outside sources of information, he/she must carefully acknowledge exactly what or where and how he/she has employed them. If he/she used the words of someone else, he/she must put quotation marks around the passage in question and add an appropriate indication of its origin. Leaving the organization, content, and phraseology intact and making simple changes is plagiaristic. However, nothing in these rules shall apply to those ideas which are so generally and freely circulated as to be part of the public domain.

It is important to recognize that plagiarism is theft, not of ideas, but of the credit for originating ideas. Students who use another's ideas or language without giving credit violate the most basic agreement between the student and the University; they attack the academic enterprise at its very heart.

Scholars at every level (including students) must represent truthfully their findings; that is, they must not tamper with the truth or offer as theirs what others discovered or wrote.

## Allegations of Academic Dishonesty

If a faculty member believes a student has committed an act of cheating or plagiarism, he or she should notify the student of the allegation and give the student an opportunity to respond. Whenever possible, this process should occur prior to the submission of final grades. When notification occurs after the submission of grades, the instructor will provide the student a *post factum* opportunity to rebut the charge.

If, in the judgment of the instructor, the student is able to show that the charge is unsubstantiated, the instructor will withdraw the allegation and remove the academic penalty. If the faculty member determines that a violation has in fact occurred, she or he must then notify the Provost's Office in writing of the allegation, with copies sent to the faculty member's dean or department chairperson.

The Provost or designee will serve as an adviser to the faculty member to assure that all appropriate due process is provided to the student and that proper procedures are followed. Notice to the Provost also serves as a record of the alleged violation. The notice must include a statement of, and (if appropriate) copies of evidence that the faculty

member has which leads him or her to believe that the student has committed the act in question.

Upon receipt of this material, the Provost or designee shall confirm the allegation by providing written notice to the student. This notice shall include the alleged violation, a brief description of the persons presenting information regarding the alleged violation, a summary of the evidence against the student, a statement of the academic penalty imposed by the instructor, and a date by which the student must respond to the allegation.

The notice will provide the student with an opportunity to contest the allegation. Should the student deny responsibility for the act, the Provost/designee shall inform the student of his or her right to a hearing before the Honor Council. Should the student accept responsibility for the act, the Provost/designee may choose to let the academic penalty stand without further action or, in severe or repeat cases, may choose to levy an additional sanction as described in the Code of Student Conduct.

Should the student wish to contest the charge, the matter will be referred to the Honor Council for adjudication. The Honor Council consists of four faculty members—three council members and one alternate—appointed by the Provost. The Provost's designee will serve as nonvoting chairperson at Council meetings. Each hearing board of the Honor Council shall consist of three voting members. Decisions shall be based upon a majority vote of those present.

(See the section entitled Academic Integrity in the FMU Student Handbook for further information.)

### **Sanctions for Academic Dishonesty**

Violations of the academic integrity policy strike at the very heart of the University and the teaching and learning process. As a result, cheating and plagiarism are placed first on the list of prohibited student conduct.

It is the responsibility of the instructor to determine the appropriate academic penalty for an act of cheating or plagiarism. Normally these penalties range from failure on the assignment to failure of the course. It is the responsibility of the Provost or his/her designee to enforce general University sanctions for severe or repeat offenses.

The first violation of the academic integrity policy typically carries no general sanction beyond the academic penalty. A second violation will result in the academic penalty plus a general sanction of suspension from the University for a term of no less than one fall or spring semester. A third offense will result in the academic penalty plus a general sanction of permanent expulsion from the University.

### **Interim Suspension**

The Vice President for Student Affairs or his/her designee may sus-



pend a student for an interim period pending disciplinary proceedings or medical evaluation. This interim suspension will become effective immediately without prior notice whenever there is evidence that the continued presence of the student on the University campus poses a substantial threat to him or herself or to others or to the stability and continuance of normal University functions.

A student suspended on an interim basis shall be given an opportunity to appear personally before the vice president for Student Affairs or a designee within five business days from the effective date of the interim suspension in order to discuss the following issues only:

1. The reliability of the information regarding the student's conduct, including the matter of his or her identity;
2. Whether the conduct and surrounding circumstances reasonably indicate that the continued presence of the student on the University campus poses a substantial threat to him or herself or to others or to the stability and continuance of normal University functions.

Should it be determined that the student no longer poses a threat, his/her interim suspension may be lifted. If a threat is determined to exist, the student will be required to remain off campus until such time as a hearing on the charges placed against him or her are held.

If a student is suspended on an interim basis, and is later found not responsible for charges, or if he/she receives a sanction of less than suspension from the University, every effort will be made to allow the student to make up any work missed during his/her suspension.

## **Exigent Circumstances**

During vacation periods, between semesters, immediately preceding, during, and immediately after examination periods, and during periods which a hearing may not be feasible, the Dean of Students or his/her designee may implement other procedures which may be necessary at the time.

## **Student Organizations**

Student groups and organizations may be charged with violations of this code. A student group or organization and its officers may be held collectively or individually responsible for violations of the Code. While student organizations and their umbrella groups (e.g. IFC, NPHC, NPC organizations) may have internal disciplinary processes, the University reserves the right to take disciplinary action as needed. Activities which result in violations will be deemed to have involved a student group or organization when one or more of the following conditions are shown to exist, or to have existed:

1. A casual observer would associate the activity with the organization.

2. The activity involved an expenditure of organizational funds.
3. A significant portion of the members of the organization was present.
4. The activity received tacit or overt consent or encouragement by the organization or its leaders, officers, and/or spokespersons.
5. Any officer or the adviser was aware of the event before it took place.
6. Individual members of the organization were responsible for the activity and the officers and/or adviser fail to identify them to appropriate University officials.
7. The event was publicized either in written form or by word of mouth as an organizational event.
8. The organization's adviser and/or executive officers were aware of the event before it took place and failed to prohibit it or take steps to ensure that the event was in compliance with the University Code of Conduct.
9. The activity took place on organization property, in space leased by the organization, or in a private residence known by the casual observer to be a location used for organizational activities.

The investigation of the alleged violations will be conducted by appropriate members of the Student Affairs staff. The Dean of Students or his/her designee based upon that investigation and information presented by the organization, will determine whether a violation of policy occurred or not. If it is determined a violation did occur, the Dean of Students will assign an appropriate sanction. The organization may appeal the decision of the Dean of Students or his/her designee within three business days of the written notification of the original decision.

## UNIVERSITY POLICIES

### Discrimination, Harassment, and Retaliation

**Francis Marion University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion, age, or veteran status in its programs and activities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding discrimination, harassment, and/or retaliatory complaints regarding harassment.**

Vice President for Administration

P.O. Box 100547

Florence, S.C. 29501-0547

105 Stokes Administration Building

Tel. No. 843-661-1146

Harassment is unwelcome offensive conduct, written, verbal, or physical, that occurs when a reasonable person would find that such conduct creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive educational, work, or living environment. A hostile environment is created when speech and/or

actions are so severe, persistent, or pervasive as to limit or deny one's ability to participate in or benefit from an activity or educational program.

The University procedures are intended to protect the rights of both the complainant and the accused, protect privacy, and prevent retaliation. Unwelcome behavior that may be construed as discrimination or harassment should be reported. However, intentionally false allegations will not be tolerated and may result in sanctions. The University is obligated to investigate any reports of discrimination or harassment and will consider action as warranted.

No one may be subject to restraint, interference, coercion, reprisal, or retaliation for seeking information about discrimination or harassment, bringing a good faith complaint, or serving as a witness.

This policy is not intended to infringe on the rights of members of the faculty to exercise academic freedom within the framework of the teaching and learning environment of the University.

## Hazing Policy

As noted above in Standard of Conduct 19, the University will take action against any club or organization which has committed an act of hazing as defined by the code. In addition, such organizations and their individual members face criminal prosecution under the laws of the state of South Carolina. Below is a description of the law under which such action may be taken.

According to South Carolina law: "It is unlawful for any person to intentionally or recklessly engage in acts which have a foreseeable potential for causing physical harm to any person for the purpose of initiation or admission into or affiliation with any chartered student, fraternal, or sororal chartered organization. Fraternity, sorority, or other organization for the purposes of this section means those chartered fraternities, sororities, or other organizations operating in connection with a school, college, or university, but shall not include fraternal organizations with a minimum age limit of 21 that do not operate in connection with a school, college, or university. This section does not include customary athletic events or similar contests or competitions, or military training whether state, federal, or educational."

It is also unlawful for any person to knowingly permit or assist any person in committing acts made unlawful by the above or to fail to report promptly any information within his/her knowledge of acts made unlawful by the above to the chief executive officer of the appropriate school, college, or university.

The implied or express consent of a person to acts which violate the above does not constitute a defense to violations of these sections.

Any violator of the law is subject to criminal conviction and may be fined, jailed, or both.

## Grade Change Policy

If a mistake was made in calculating or recording a term grade, the instructor of the course may change the grade. A change of grade may occur only within one calendar year from the receipt of the grade.

1. A faculty member seeking to change a student's term grade because of a mistake must request the change on the appropriate form, which may be obtained from the Office of the Registrar.
2. The department chairperson or dean shall approve or disapprove change of grade requests. If approved, the requests will be sent to the Registrar with instructions to make the necessary corrections on the official record.

If a student wishes to appeal a grade in a course, he/she has the right to do so. In order to appeal a grade, the student must follow the grade appeals process listed below (for more information, see the University Catalog).

## Grade Appeals Policy

### Grade Appeals Committee

**MEMBERSHIP:** The Grade Appeals Committee will consist of five faculty members to be elected by the faculty at large. The committee will elect the chair.

**FUNCTION:** The committee will hear final course grade appeals not resolved at the level of the academic unit.

**GROUND FOR APPEAL:** Unless the faculty member has acted in an arbitrary or capricious manner in the assignment of the final course grade in question or unless the instructor's grading policy is in violation of the guidelines established by the University or his/her own policies as noted in the syllabus or other written documents, it is the right of the instructor to determine whether or not the final course grade should be changed.

**PROCEDURES:** The committee will meet as necessary, and is called by the Committee Chair. **Appeals for grade changes may not be made after 60 days from the date the grade was given.** The following procedures will be followed:

1. The student will first attempt to resolve the issue by consulting with the instructor.
2. If the issue is unresolved after consultation with the instructor, the student will then consult with the department chair/school dean to attempt a resolution.
3. If the matter is not resolved after consultation with the instructor and the chair/dean, then the student may petition the chair/dean who will forward the matter to the Grade Appeals Committee. The petition must include the following items: a completed petition form signed by the instructor of the course (unless the instructor is no longer a member of the Francis Marion Univer-

sity faculty), the student's adviser, and the chair/dean of the academic unit that offered the course; a letter explaining the basis for the grade appeal; and if applicable, supporting documents and a list of any other evidence to be presented. The student's argument will be limited to statements from the student and the evidence delineated in the petition.

4. Upon receipt of a completed grade appeal petition, the chair of the Grade Appeals Committee will promptly inform the faculty member, the appropriate department chair/school dean, and the Provost. The committee chair will also make available to the faculty member a copy of the petition and the supporting documentation.
5. The Grade Appeals Committee, upon receipt of a student's grade appeal petition, might seek additional information and advice, as it deems necessary. In some cases, the committee may conduct a hearing, as when the student, faculty member, or committee members might ask for one. Because this hearing is for informational purposes only, it should not replicate judicial proceedings. No legal counsel shall be permitted to appear.
6. Within ten workdays after a decision, the Chair of the Grade Appeals Committee will notify the student, the faculty member, the appropriate department chair/school dean, and the Provost of the committee's findings and recommendations."
 

If the Grade Appeals Committee, through its inquiries and deliberations, determines that the grade should be changed, it will request that the instructor makes the change, providing the instructor with a written explanation of its reasons. Should the instructor decline, he or she will provide an explanation for refusing.
7. If after considering the instructor's explanation the Grade Appeals Committee concludes that it would be unjust to allow the original grade to stand, the Committee may then recommend to the appropriate department chair/school dean that the grade be changed. The chair/dean in consultation with the instructor will assign the appropriate grade. Only the chair/dean, upon the written recommendation of the Grade Appeals Committee, has the authority to effect a change in grade over the objection of the instructor who assigned the grade.

Petition forms for filing a grade appeal are available at the offices of academic department chairpersons.

## English Language Proficiency

English has been designated the primary language of all faculty members at Francis Marion University since fall 1991. "Primary" language is defined as written and spoken English comparable to that of a native speaker. If the University considers employing on its full-time teach-

ing faculty a candidate whose second language is English, that candidate will:

1. give a lecture in his/her discipline in English to students and faculty who will assess the candidate's fluency in English on the basis of being able to comprehend fully the content of the lecture; and
2. submit a letter of interest and, when applicable, additional samples of written work.

The English Fluency in Higher Education Act of the South Carolina General Assembly requires that each public institution provides assurance that there exists an adequate procedure for students to report grievances concerning the inability of instructors to be understood in their spoken or written English. At FMU, students should state such a grievance in a scheduled meeting with the chairperson of the department or dean of the school involved.

The department chairperson or school dean will then arrange for a meeting among the chairperson or dean, the grieving student(s), and the instructor. It is the responsibility of the chairperson or dean to find a satisfactory resolution to the grievance and to report the resolution to the Provost.

## **Demonstrations Policy**

Recognizing the rights of free speech and peaceful assembly as guaranteed by the First Amendment of the United States Constitution, and as fundamental to the democratic process, the University supports the rights of students to express their views or to peacefully protest and peacefully dissent against actions and opinions with which they disagree.

The University also recognizes a concurrent obligation to develop policies and procedures which safeguard this freedom of expression but which, at the same time, will maintain on the campus an atmosphere conducive to academic work, preserving the dignity and seriousness of University ceremonies and public exercises and respecting the private rights of all individuals. Thus, the University has established regulations intended to regulate the time, place and manner of such activities in compliance with the constitution in order that demonstrations do not prohibit the freedoms or rights of other members of the University community.

The following regulations are intended to enumerate the essential provisions necessary to reconcile freedom of assembly with responsibility in any campus meeting conducted for the purpose of expressing opinions of the participants.

1. Gatherings should be reviewed by the vice president for Student Affairs and the University Space Committee to ensure that they comply with all time, space and manner regulations.

2. Gatherings may be conducted in areas which are generally available to the public, provided that such gatherings:
  - a. Are conducted in an orderly and peaceful manner;
  - b. Do not obstruct in any way pedestrian or vehicular traffic;
  - c. Do not interfere with classes, scheduled meetings, events, ceremonies or with other essential processes of the University;
  - d. Are held in assigned meeting rooms inside a building.
3. Meetings which would impose an unusual demand upon staff or facilities must have approval regardless of where they are held on campus.
4. Violation of the above stated policy or any University regulations which occur during such a gathering will result in appropriate disciplinary action.
5. Persons who are not members of the University community, as well as those who are, may not engage in activities which disrupt, obstruct, or in any way interfere with the pursuits of teaching, learning, campus activities, or any other University process.

## Student Room Entry Policy

Francis Marion University reserves the right for authorized University personnel to enter student residential rooms and apartments (hereinafter referred to as room(s) for the following reasons:

1. In order to perform routine custodial services, to make improvements and repairs, and to provide routine maintenance services. This may include agents of the University providing contracted services.
2. For the purposes of inspection to ensure that health, fire, and safety standards are maintained. This may include agents of the University providing contracted services.
3. In emergency situations in which entry is deemed necessary to protect the lives and/or safety of students or other persons present at the time of the emergency, or to perform emergency repairs to prevent damage to persons or property. This may include law enforcement and other University personnel.
4. For the purposes of enforcement of the University Code of Student Conduct when it is believed that an illegal act, or an act which violates University standards of conduct, is taking place or has taken place, in order to collect information regarding the alleged violation and/or when failure to do so may result in the destruction of evidence of the alleged violation. This may include any University personnel other than law enforcement personnel.
5. By law enforcement officers in the performance of their statutory duties and in accordance with legally defined procedures governing search and seizure.

## Procedures

In situations one (1) and two (2) above, every effort will be made to provide at least 24 hours advance notice to the residents of the room and to allow the presence of the residents during the entry of the room by University personnel. The presence of the residents is not required in order for these types of entry to take place.

In situation three (3), four (4) and five (5) above, advance notice of the entry is likely to be impossible and the presence of residents is not necessary.

In all of the situations described above every effort will be made to provide notice of the room entry if residents are not present at the time of the entry. This notification will include a Francis Marion University "Room Entry Notification Form." If the entry is made for law enforcement purposes related to a properly executed search warrant then the appropriate legal notification procedures will be made by law enforcement personnel.

**Procedure for Room Entry** - When a University official desires to make a room entry, she/he should knock on the door of the room, identify herself/himself by name and position, and allow an appropriate amount of time for residents to open the door. Should an appropriate time elapse and the door not be opened by residents, the University official should announce that he/she is about to enter the room by use of a key. After such notice, the official may do so. There are some circumstances in which it may not be safe or otherwise appropriate to follow these procedures. In those cases, University officials may let themselves into the room by use of a key without notice. The official may be asked to justify this decision should subsequent disciplinary action be taken against the residents of the room and /or other actions occur which make such justification necessary.

**Procedure for Room Inspection** - A room inspection is conducted for the purposes of determining if certain services must be provided within a room and/or if violations of University policy, the University Code of Student Conduct, or local, state or federal laws are occurring or have occurred. This may include any University official other than law enforcement personnel.

**Procedure for Room Search** - In order for a University room search to take place, permission must be granted in advance by the Dean of Students, the vice president for Student Affairs, or their designee, or the resident(s) of the room must give consent. University officials may enter a room as noted above in order to conduct such a search. At the time of the search, if the search has been approved as noted above, those conducting the search will be in possession of a permission to search form which indicates such approval. This notice will be presented to a resident of the room at the time of the search if a resident is available. If a resident is not available, then the notice along with a



room entry notification form will be left in plain view in the room. If circumstances necessitate that University officials make a room entry in order to determine if a violation of University policy is taking place, has taken place, or will take place, they may request permission of the resident(s) of the room to allow them to search. If consent is given by the resident(s), the resident(s) and University official should complete a Consent to Search Form in lieu of the above stated policy description.

Residents may be present in the room during a search unless their presence becomes disruptive. Disruptive students may be removed from the room and will be subject to disciplinary action and possible criminal prosecution. Items found during the search which may violate University policy or local, state or federal law will be confiscated. If items are confiscated a list of those items will be provided to the resident and/or left in the room.

## Definitions

**Room Entry** - A room entry is defined as any entry into a student's private living quarters for the purposes of conducting University business. Personal visits by University staff (e.g. Resident Assistants) to student rooms are not considered a room entry for the purposes of this policy.

**Room Inspection** - A room inspection is defined as an entry into a student's private living quarters for the purpose of conducting University business and may include the physical examination of the furniture, fixtures and other items of University owned or maintained property within the room. It may include the opening of drawers, closets, etc. but should not include the movement of a resident's personal belongings except in the case in which this is necessary to visually examine University owned or maintained property.

**University Room Search** - A University room search is defined as the entry into a student's private living quarters for the purpose of conducting University business and the enforcement of the University Code of Student Conduct or other policies. It may include the close physical examination of all fixtures, furnishings, personal property and other items within the room. Items found during such a search which appear to violate University policy may be confiscated and may be destroyed based upon the actual nature of the items. Potentially illegal items found during such a search will be turned over to law enforcement personnel for possible criminal prosecution. Such a search may not be instigated for law enforcement purposes and may not occur at the request of law enforcement personnel for such purposes. Such a search may be conducted by University officials other than Campus Police officers. At least two University officials must be present during any search. Items discovered in the room which may be illegal or in violation of University policy may be used as evidence in judicial hearings.

**Search for Law Enforcement Purposes** - A search for law enforcement purposes is defined by local, state and federal laws and is governed by the Fourth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. Permission for such a search must be approved by appropriate and duly constituted legal authorities and will not be conducted by University personnel other than law enforcement personnel. Every effort will be made to assure that a University official is present during such a search.

**University Official** - For the purposes of this policy the term University official shall refer to any University employee (whether full-time or part-time, student or non-student) acting in his or her official capacity and within the bounds of his/her authority.

**Private Living Quarters** - Private living quarters, for the purpose of this policy, is defined as any area of the residence hall except common areas such as study rooms, hallways, bathrooms, etc. In the apartments, these are defined as the entire apartment.

**Consent** - Consent is defined as the oral or written permission to perform an act.

**Plain View** - Plain view is defined as anything which may be seen from a central location in a room (e.g. on a desk or bed, on the floor, etc.).

## Literature Distribution Policy

The publicizing of events or programs sponsored by the University, University departments, or officially recognized student organizations is a necessary part of insuring the success of these functions. The University has appropriate designated areas for the purpose of providing a place for appropriate departments, groups, organizations, and individuals to post or distribute their respective notices. The purpose of these procedures is to outline guidelines for the general posting and distribution of publicity material(s) as well as guidelines for the use of designated places on campus for the posting of said material(s). Requests for exceptions to any part of this policy must be made in writing to the Office of Student Affairs. All materials must be submitted for approval prior to posting. Approval may be given by the Office of Student Affairs for general posting, or by the individual department for posting on departmental bulletin boards.

## Policy

1. Only recognized student organizations, University departments, academic units, faculty, staff, and students may post or distribute materials on campus. All commercial posting by off-campus businesses, organizations, entities, and individuals is prohibited unless sponsored by a recognized student organization, University department, or academic unit. Posted materials must clearly identify the sponsoring entity.

2. Posted materials must clearly promote the activity publicized and the sponsoring University organization as its primary message, rather than the commercial advancement of the non-University affiliated entity or product. If the name, logo, trademark, slogan, or similar identifier of a non-University affiliated entity or product appears on printed material, it must not appear as the dominant message. Materials may not advocate illegal activity, or any activity that is in conflict with the mission of the University. Materials posted or distributed must be in accordance with all University policies as well as local, state, and federal laws. Promotion of activities involving alcohol may not be the primary focus of any materials posted.
3. The expiration date on all printed materials for posting will be a maximum of two weeks from the date of approval for all flyers (11 inches x 17 inches or less) and one week from the date of approval for all banners (larger than 11 inches x 17 inches). It is the responsibility of the event sponsor or individual to remove the materials on or before the expiration date.
4. The University reserves the right to deny approval for materials that advertise events in conflict with previously scheduled University activities or with the mission of the University.
5. Flyers may be posted only on bulletin boards or other approved areas. It is prohibited for flyers, posters, banners or any other form of advertisement to be posted on vehicles, trash cans, sidewalks, support columns, lamp posts, buildings, trees, signs, signposts, or any other area which does not fall under one of the appropriate categories outlined in this policy. The use of chalk, paint, or other related substance for advertisement on these surfaces is strictly prohibited.
6. Flyers may be posted only on bulletin boards as designated below, upon receiving the proper approval:
  - Official University Notices - Only items sponsored by the University or an official University department may be placed on bulletin boards or areas designated in this manner.
  - Student and Organization News - Only items sponsored by officially recognized and registered student organizations may be posted on bulletin boards or areas designated in this manner.
  - General Use - Items may be posted by individual members of the FMU community on bulletin boards or areas designated in this manner.
  - Department Bulletin Boards - Only items approved by the department responsible for the bulletin board may be posted on these boards.
  - Only tacks or staples may be used to attach flyers to bulletin boards. Flyers may not be adhered to any painted surfaces, door

frames, doors, windows, or walls. Exceptions to this guideline may be made by the Dean of Students Office, or the University official responsible for the space. Only one copy of each posting is allowed on an individual bulletin board.

7. The unauthorized removal, defacement, or posting over of any materials posted in accordance with this policy is prohibited.

## Guidelines

The following guidelines must be followed in regards to posting or distributing materials in the designated locations:

- Classrooms - Posting or distribution of materials is prohibited in classrooms.
- Academic Buildings - Most bulletin boards in academic buildings are for the use of academic departments for official notices. Academic buildings may have bulletin boards designated for other uses as indicated. Distribution of materials in the academic buildings is prohibited. Departmental approval is required to post materials on any departmentally sponsored bulletin boards.
- Student Residential Facilities - Distribution and posting of materials in the residential areas of campus is strictly prohibited. Bulletin boards inside residence halls are for the official use of the housing and residence life staff only. All materials posted in the residence halls must be approved by the director of housing. In the Housing Office Complex, there may be bulletin boards designated for other uses as indicated.
- Ervin Dining Hall -Flyers may be placed only on bulletin boards as designated in policy #6. Generally, distribution of materials is prohibited in the Ervin Dining Hall unless promoting an official University activity. The director of dining services may consider special requests.
- Rogers Library - Distribution and posting of materials in the library is strictly prohibited. Bulletin boards inside the library are for official use only. All materials posted in the Rogers Library must be approved by the dean of the library.
- Smith University Center - Distribution and posting of materials in UC is acceptable with published guidelines. Flyers may be placed only on bulletin boards as designated in policy #6. There are bulletin boards and other areas specifically designated for larger banners. Banners (printed items larger than 11 inches x 17 inches) may be posted (using string or rope) ONLY in the designated areas of the Smith University Center under the direction of the building coordinator. Distribution of materials in the Smith University Center may be done only if sponsored by a University department or officially recognized student organization, and appropriate procedures are followed regarding space reservation.
- Stokes Administration Building - Most bulletin boards in SAB are

for the use of University departments for official notices. Some bulletin boards may be designated for other uses as indicated. Distribution of materials in the SAB is prohibited. Departmental approval is required to post materials to any departmentally sponsored bulletin boards.

- Building Breezeways (between Cauthen Educational Media Center, Founders Hall, and Fine Arts Center - Flyers may be placed only on bulletin boards as designated in policy #6. Otherwise, distribution and posting of materials must adhere to all published guidelines.
- Exterior areas of campus - Flyers are typically prohibited from being posted in exterior portions of campus. Special bulletin boards may be available for student organization news or official University notices. Flyers may not be distributed in parking lots or on parked cars. Personal distribution of materials in exterior areas of campus may be approved on a limited basis and only with prior approval of appropriate University officials. Distribution of these materials must not interfere with the normal function of the University or disrupt the flow of traffic (pedestrian or vehicular).

Failure to adhere to this policy may result in, but is not limited to, the loss of posting/distribution privileges, student judicial action, or restriction from campus.

## Political Activity Policy

Francis Marion University recognizes and appreciates interest by students in the political process related to local, state and federal governments. Student participation in campus and governmental political campaigns is a natural and desirable result of participation in the University community and the enfranchisement of 18-year olds. Accordingly, it is the intent of the University to provide, within the constraints of University regulations and local, state and federal laws, a campus environment in which students may participate fully in appropriate political activity. Toward that end, the following guidelines shall apply to political activity of students on the Francis Marion University campus.

Registered student organizations may invite candidates for public office to speak on or in University property or facilities so long as the University is able to provide reasonably equal facilities to all other candidates for the same political office. Scheduling of politically related activities shall be handled in accordance with applicable University regulations. Student organizations must coordinate these activities with the administration in order to avoid scheduling conflicts and logistical needs. In most cases, student organizations should coordinate political activities and speakers with members of the Political Science department.

## Electronic Communication

Every student is required to provide or verify a valid electronic mail (e-mail) address during the class registration process or when accessing their Swamp Fox Web Account. Students are required to check this e-mail account on a regular basis. Francis Marion University may use the addresses provided by students to communicate regarding emergency situations, schedule changes, class cancellation, or important meetings. Students are responsible for all communications sent by the University, its officers, employees, or representatives to the students preferred e-mail account. If a student does not have a valid e-mail account, they may acquire an account from the Academic Computing Center.

## Requests to Report to an Administrative Office

Such requests, including a summons to any meeting regarding potential judicial action or to a judicial hearing, must be promptly carried out. When the request to report at a specific time and date conflicts with a student's schedule, requests for a change of time **MUST** be made prior to the time and date specified. Every effort will be made to avoid conflicts with student's classes. When this is unavoidable, the Dean of Students Office will provide, upon request, a notice of necessary class absence for the student to provide to the instructor.

## Access To Campus

The University's campus and facilities shall be restricted to students, faculty, staff, guests and invitees except on such occasions when all or part of the campus, buildings, and other facilities are open to the general public.

University students are expected to obtain and carry with them at all times when on campus, a University ID card (FMU Card). This card is the property of the University and must be surrendered upon request by University officials.

All University personnel (faculty, staff, administrators) and students shall provide acceptable identification (FMU Card, drivers license, fee receipt, etc.) when requested to do so by Campus Police Officers or other University officials. University personnel who refuse to give acceptable identification shall be subject to appropriate University action. For students, this will include charges for violation of Standard of Conduct #6 - Failure to comply with the directions of a University official.

Invitees, visitors and guests to the Francis Marion University campus shall provide identification and/or qualifications if requested to do

so by Campus Police Officers or other University officials. Persons who are unable or unwilling to give acceptable identification and/or qualifications shall be requested to leave the campus and if they refuse, shall be subject to lawful removal and prosecution including, but not limited to, the injunctive process.

On occasions when public events are held on campus, (e.g. intercollegiate athletic contests, concerts, lectures, etc.) the University shall be considered open to all persons desirous of attending such events.

Guests, visitors and invitees shall honor University rules, regulations and policies concerning the use of, and conduct in, University facilities or grounds. Violations of the rules, regulations or policies may result in lawful removal from the campus, prosecution, and withdrawal of visitation privileges. All University personnel are responsible for the behavior of their guests and visitors. Such personnel are subject to appropriate University action in cases of violation.

## Solicitation Policy

Solicitation by persons not affiliated with the University is prohibited for non-invitees. If you are accosted by a solicitor, please contact the Campus Police so that they may be informed of the proper protocol and/or be escorted from the campus.

Both commercial and noncommercial solicitation are prohibited in non-public areas of the University. Solicitation and sales in public areas of the University are restricted to invitees and registered organizations, faculty, staff, and students of the University and are subject to reasonable restrictions as to time, place, and manner.

As it pertains to student organizations, "solicitation" is defined as the seeking of funds or support by a registered student organization from sources other than its members, including the procurement of supplies and other forms of support, and the selling or distributing of items, materials or products and services. Student organizations, or companies sponsored by an organization, may not be involved in the solicitation of credit services, offers, or applications while on University property.

Registered student organizations may be authorized to solicit on campus as long as such solicitation is consistent with the aims of the organization and is not for the personal benefit of its members. In interpreting the aims or purposes of the registered student organization, the statement in its constitution will be followed.

Requests for approval of any form of solicitation must be made in writing to the Dean of Students Office not later than seven business days preceding the proposed date of the activity. Following content approval by the Dean of Students Office, the requesting organization must make appropriate arrangements and scheduling with the adminis-

trative office of the facility to be used. Content approval is not a guarantee of the availability of the space. The Dean of Students Office will assist the organization in scheduling and coordinating outdoor space with the Office of Business Affairs. Ordinarily, academic buildings and the non-public areas of residential facilities will not be used for solicitation.

## Smoking Policy

To provide a comfortable, healthy environment for the University community, smoking or the possession of lighted smoking materials must be in adherence with the following policy guidelines.

1. Smoking is prohibited in all buildings owned or controlled by FMU, except limited areas within residential buildings.
2. Smoking is also prohibited in the areas surrounding buildings unless the area is designated as a smoking area. Areas in which smoking is allowed are clearly marked with signs.
3. Student Housing has designated certain locations and housing assignments as non-smoking. Smoking is prohibited from all interior public areas of the residence halls and apartment buildings. Specific residence halls—or floors within them—are designated as non-smoking. Applicants who indicate a desire to smoke on their housing application will be assigned to a residence hall room in which smoking is allowed based upon availability. In campus apartments, students will be assigned to apartments based upon their smoking preference and availability. Apartments are designated as non-smoking unless all residents in the unit agree for it to be designated as smoking during the application/assignment process.

Violations of the smoking policy by students will result in appropriate disciplinary action.

## Alcohol And Other Drug Policy Summary

### Francis Marion University Alcohol and Drug Policy

This document (revised 11/01) is distributed in partial compliance with the federal Drug Free Schools and Communities Act, which is fully endorsed by Francis Marion University.

### I. INTRODUCTION

Francis Marion University prohibits the illegal and irresponsible use of alcohol and other drugs. The University will enforce federal, state, and local laws, as well as its own alcohol and drug policies. Procedures that support these laws and policies have been instituted and are strictly enforced. It is the responsibility of every member of the University community to know the risks associated with the use and abuse of alcohol and other drugs and to assist the University in creating an environment which promotes health-enhancing attitudes



and activities. This brochure is intended to provide information about the University's Alcohol and Drug Policies and Sanctions; federal, state and local laws and penalties; procedures for the serving of alcohol and the registration of events; health risks associated with alcohol and other drug use; and resources for education and treatment. Additional information about alcohol and drug policies and procedures may be found in the FMU Student Handbook, the FMU Staff Handbook and the FMU Faculty Handbook.

The use of alcoholic beverages on campus is not encouraged and is prohibited with the following exceptions; (1) the private use of alcohol within the apartments by students of legal drinking age (2) the provision of alcohol at certain events sponsored by a University department, contracted organization, or campus community organization upon approval by the appropriate University official (see herein). Events must meet all criteria contained herein. The use of alcoholic beverages within these two exceptions is permitted only for those of legal drinking age (21 years of age or older).

## **II. FRANCIS MARION UNIVERSITY ALCOHOL AND DRUG POLICIES**

- A. Possession and/or use of alcohol on the Francis Marion University Campus is regulated and may only occur within the parameters of this and other University policies contained in the FMU Staff Handbook, the FMU Faculty Handbook, and the FMU Student Handbook. Francis Marion University prohibits the unlawful manufacture, dispensation, possession, use or distribution of illegal drugs and alcohol on its property or as a part of any of its activities by faculty, staff or students regardless of permanent, full-time, part-time or temporary status, pursuant to state and federal laws. For appropriate events, the Provost or vice president responsible for approving the event will determine how, when, and where alcohol may be used.
- B. At no time will FMU allow possession, use, and/or distribution of an illegal drug as defined by the statutes of South Carolina.
- C. Individuals and sponsoring groups are accountable for their choices and behavior. If alcohol or other drug violations occur, the following systems may be utilized:
  - 1. Procedures outlined in the FMU Student Handbook.
  - 2. Procedures outlined in faculty and employee handbooks.
  - 3. Legal prosecution.
- D. Students, employees, and guests must adhere to federal, state and local laws and regulations.
- E. Alcohol and other drugs will not be allowed to interfere with residential living, co-curricular activities, classroom learning or any other activity of the University.

- F. Alcohol is prohibited in the residence halls. Private use of beer and wine by students of legal drinking age is allowed in the apartments.
- G. When alcohol is present at an event, strict controls will be enforced in order to prevent underage drinking.
- H. Alternative beverages and food, in appropriate quantities determined by the approving University official, must be available and visible when alcohol is served.
- I. Detailed alcohol procedures are outlined in this handbook and copies are available from the offices of Student Affairs, Human Resources and Campus Police. These procedures apply to all members of the FMU community and their guests.
- J. Open containers are prohibited from all public areas of FMU campus, unless the area has been designated as appropriate for alcohol use under the guidelines of the ALCOHOL AND DRUG POLICY.
- K. Events held at the Wallace House, or other locations as deemed appropriate, may be exempt from appropriate portions of this policy at the discretion of the University president.

### **III. LEGAL ISSUES RELATING TO ALCOHOL USE**

- A. The South Carolina Law (Title 61): Individuals must be 21 years of age to purchase, possess, and/or consume alcohol. It is illegal to give or sell alcoholic beverages to persons who are under 21 years of age or who are intoxicated. For persons 21 years of age or older, it is unlawful for that person to possess or consume alcoholic liquors upon any premises where the person has been forbidden to possess or consume alcoholic liquors by the owner, operator, or person in charge of the premises.
- B. Open Container Law: The state of South Carolina and Florence County prohibit open containers of alcohol in vehicles. At FMU, open containers are prohibited on campus except within the apartments or at approved events. Open containers of alcohol are defined as any holders or receptacles on which the manufacturer's seal has been broken, and/or holders that allow unobstructed, unrestricted, or otherwise open access to the alcohol. This includes, but is not limited to, any primary or secondary container to include: cans, cups, bottles, kegs, etc.
- C. Possession, use, sale, and/or manufacture of false identification cards is strictly prohibited under South Carolina law and under Francis Marion University policy.
- D. Public Consumption and Intoxication: State law prohibits the consumption of alcohol in unlicensed public places. In keeping with local and state laws, FMU will not allow drunkenness in any public area of the campus. Organizations wishing to serve

alcoholic beverages must obtain prior approval from the appropriate University officials as outlined in this policy.

- E. Alcohol Permits: Any group or person desiring to sell or distribute alcohol on University property must possess or obtain the appropriate permit from the South Carolina Department of Revenue and Taxation as specified by South Carolina law. This may be a lengthy process – efforts should begin long before the anticipated date of the event.

#### IV. UNIVERSITY ALCOHOL PROCEDURES

- A. The Provost or appropriate vice president will be charged with screening applications for events at which alcohol might be served. The petitioning department or organization will complete an application addressing (a) the date, nature, and function of the event; (b) the location and estimated number to be in attendance; (c) the amount and type of alcohol to be served along with alternative beverages and (d) the control measure effected to assure adherence to the legal drinking age and the prevention of excessive drinking and DUI offenses.

Events may be approved by:

- The **Provost** for events sponsored by academic departments or otherwise related to academic affairs;
- Administrative departments or otherwise related to staff affairs;
- The **Vice President for Student Affairs** for events sponsored by student organizations or otherwise related to student affairs;
- The **Vice President for Public and Community Affairs** for events sponsored by off-campus groups or organizations.
- The **Athletics Director** for events sponsored by the athletics office.

Events that cater to multiple groups from different areas should receive the joint approval of the appropriate University officials listed above.

- B. Specific event locations must be approved by the provost or appropriate vice president. **All appropriate facilities and service requests must be completed.**
- C. Non-alcoholic Beverages and Food
  1. Non-alcoholic beverages (soft drinks or other alternatives) must be available in the same location and be featured as prominently as the alcoholic beverages during the entire time alcoholic beverages are served. The number of servings of alternative beverages must be equal to the number or amount of approved alcohol servings.
  2. When alcoholic beverages are served, adequate amounts of food and/or snacks must be prominently displayed and

available for consumption during the entire event. The amount of food necessary to comply with this regulation will vary depending upon the time and type of event and must be approved by the provost or appropriate vice president.

#### D. Dispensing Alcohol

1. All alcohol at registered events must be dispensed by approved persons call **“servers.”** Servers must meet minimum standards outlined in this policy. Servers must be 21 years of age or older, must not use alcohol or drugs at least four hours prior to (or during) the event for which they serve, and must be approved by the provost or appropriate vice president.
2. All registered alcohol events must have a person identified as the **“Event Manager”** available at all times during the event. This person must review and acknowledge understanding of Francis Marion University policies, procedures and sanctions for alcohol and other drugs.
3. The University will assume the **Event Manager** is the person registering the event unless otherwise noted on the registration form.
4. **Event Managers** must be **21 years or older** and abide by all aspects of the Alcohol Policy.
5. Liquor may be served only at private functions in the Wallace House, the Ervin Dining Hall, and other locations as approved by the University president.

#### E. Promotion:

1. Alcohol may not be used as an inducement to participate in a campus event.
2. Promotional materials, including advertisement for any University event, shall not make reference to or include pictures of alcoholic beverages. Advertising materials must comply with the Solicitation and Advertising Guidelines in the Student Handbook. Neither events nor their advertisement should have as a major emphasis consumption of alcohol (e.g. “beer blasts”). Advertisement and/or holding of an alcohol event open to the public in individual apartment/room/suite is prohibited.

#### F. Security:

Law enforcement personnel approved by Campus Police are required at all events of 150 or more people. The sponsoring group is responsible for the costs of supplying Campus Police or Florence County sheriff’s deputies. One officer is required for the first 150 people (including members of the host organiza-

tion), and an additional officer is required for each additional 100 attendees. Campus Police can provide additional information on scheduling and costs. Arrangements for these services must be made through Campus Police. The University official responsible for approving the event and the Chief of Campus Police may jointly make exceptions to this requirement. Forms for requesting officer support can be obtained from the Campus Police or Student Affairs and must be completed along with all other forms related to the event.

- G. Alcohol Event Registration Procedures:
  1. Events where alcohol will be served must be registered and all appropriate facilities, service, alcohol, and security requests must be obtained per University guidelines. Events (see the definition of “alcohol event” in the Glossary of Terms) or parties with alcohol are never authorized in any student residential areas (residence halls and apartments) of the University.
  2. Events where alcohol is served must be registered with the provost or appropriate vice president no later than seven days prior to the event.
  3. The provost or appropriate vice president can disapprove or revise any alcohol event for valid reasons, including but not limited to, the following: inappropriate types/amounts of alcohol, inappropriate location/duration of event, numerous events have been scheduled; a sponsor has lost privileges for registering events; the registration deadline was not met, and previous violations of the University policies by an individual, group or organization.
  4. The individual registering the event involving use or serving of alcohol, the **Event Manager**, and organization officers are responsible for the following:
    - a. Ensuring compliance with all of the Francis Marion University ALCOHOL AND DRUG POLICY and the South Carolina ABC regulations by members and guests. The University reserves the right to enter events to investigate compliance.
    - b. Ensuring that only individuals of legal age serve, possess, or consume alcohol and that intoxicated individuals are not served.
    - c. Ensuring that the noise level does not disturb others. **Event Managers** must respond to requests regarding noise levels.
    - d. Preventing any damage that could occur as a result of the event.
    - e. Ensuring that the area where the alcohol event was held, including yards, parking lots and hallways, is cleaned immediately following the event, or as determined appropriate by the approving official. Billing for cleaning and/or damages will be assessed to the individual or organization

- that registered the alcohol event.
  - f. Controlling the size of the event and ensuring attendance does not exceed maximum safety occupancy.
  - g. The **Event Manager** will be notified by telephone or in writing within two business days of approval or non-approval of the use or service of alcohol by the Provost or appropriate vice president.
  - h. Requirements for Student Organizations and Students
1. Individuals or organizations sponsoring an event must insure that alcoholic beverages are not accessible or served to persons under the legal drinking age or to persons who appear intoxicated. Everyone admitted to the event must possess an identification (with photograph) issued by a school or government agency. An appropriate method, approved by the vice president for Student Affairs, must be used to determine if guests are of the legal drinking age. A guest list must be signed at the door by each participant prior to access into the event and presented to University authorities at their request. This list must include the type of identification used to verify the age of participants.
  2. Events with alcohol sponsored by student organizations cannot be registered or held within the last seven days prior to the first day of final examinations in fall or spring semester.
  3. Direct access to alcoholic beverages must be to a person(s) designated as the server(s). Servers must be 21 years of age, and servers who are of legal drinking age must not consume alcohol four hours before or during their shifts and must not be intoxicated.
  4. Consumption of alcoholic beverages is permitted only within the approved areas designated for the activity.
  5. Open containers of alcohol are allowed only inside of apartments or in areas designated and approved for alcoholic events. No open containers of alcohol are allowed in hallways, reception areas, or on the grounds (excluding pre-approved areas).
  6. Individual serving containers larger than 16 ounces may not be used.
  7. No hard liquor (distilled spirits) is allowed at events sponsored by student organizations.
  8. No social event shall include any form of drinking game or theme in its activities or promotion.
  9. No sale or barter of alcohol will be allowed at any time except through the use of an **approved third party vendor** (see glossary of terms).
  10. No alcohol may be consumed from a glass container in any common area. If bottle alcohol is used it must be transferred by the server, prior to consumption, to a non-glass container (no larger than pint size).

11. Alcoholic beverages are not permitted in and may not be consumed within residence halls.
12. Kegs are not allowed on campus unless properly registered and approved by the Vice President for Student Affairs.
13. Kegs of beer will not be registered for any organizations whose national organizations and/or insurance policies forbid the purchase of kegs and/or the group purchase of alcohol.
14. Kegs are not allowed in apartments or residence halls.

## **V. SANCTIONS**

- A. Students and/or organizations charged with violation(s) of the Francis Marion University Policies and Procedures for Alcohol and Drugs will be held accountable for their actions and will face disciplinary action and/or legal prosecution. Students may also be held accountable for allowing or influencing violations of these policies by their guests. Campus disciplinary sanctions include, but are not limited to: written warnings, loss of privileges, disciplinary probation, educational assignments, fines, community service, counseling, restitution, suspension, and/or dismissal. If students are found to be in violation of Francis Marion University policies and procedures, the following sanctions are likely to be applied through procedures outlined in the FMU Student Handbook:
  1. Distribution of illegal drugs: Dismissal.
  2. Possession/use of illegal drugs: Suspension/Fines/Community Service/Counseling/other sanctions.
  3. Possession of Drug Paraphernalia and Alcohol Policy Violations (underage drinking, alcohol residence halls, etc.): Probation/Fines/Community Service/Counseling/other sanctions.
  4. Possession/use of false identification: Probation and/or other sanctions.
  5. Serious multiple violations and/or repeat offenders will face more stringent sanctions.
- B. Violations of state/local alcohol and drug laws or ordinances are punishable by fines, imprisonment, and suspension of a driver's license. Violations occurring within a Drug Free School Zone (on or within 1,000 feet of all University property) carry enhanced penalties. Specific information about these penalties is available from Campus Police.
- C. Violations of federal laws for possession, use, or distribution of illegal drugs carry mandatory penalties for first time offenders including: imprisonment, fines, loss of property, loss of professional licensure, and loss of financial aid. Penalties for violations

occurring within 1,000 feet of a school are enhanced by the state of South Carolina. Specific information about these penalties is available from Campus Police.

## **VI. HEALTH RISKS**

- A. Alcohol and illicit drug use can pose many health risks to University students. Such use may result in: impaired judgment and coordination; physical and psychological dependence; damage to vital organs such as the heart, stomach, liver and brain; inability to learn and remember information; psychosis and severe anxiety; unwanted or unprotected sex resulting in pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases, including AIDS; and injury and death. Negative consequences of alcohol and other drug use can be immediate.
- B. Substance abuse by family members and friends is also of concern of students. Patterns of risk-taking behavior and dependency not only interfere in the lives of these abusers but can also have a negative impact on a student's academic work, emotional well-being, and adjustment to college. Students concerned with their own health or that of a friend should consult a physician, a mental health professional, or one of the other resources listed in the following section for more information and assistance.

## **VII. RESOURCES FOR EDUCATION AND TREATMENT**

- A. On campus
  - 1. The Office of Counseling and Testing (661-1840) – This office offers individual counseling and alcohol and drug education programs. Various educational programs (including video and print resources) regarding alcohol and other drug use and abuse and related issues are available.
  - 2. Dean of Students Office (661-1182).
  - 3. Campus Police (661-1109); Emergency (661-1109).
- B. Off campus
  - 1. Local meetings of support groups, including Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) and Al-Anon – Contact the Office of Counseling and Testing for information.
  - 2. Circle Park Associates (665-9349).
  - 3. Alcohol and Drug Abuse Hotline (1-800-ALCOHOL).
  - 4. Narcotics Anonymous (1-800-777-1515).
  - 5. National Cocaine Hotline (1-800-COCAINE).
  - 6. National Institute on Drug Abuse/Treatment Hotline (1-800-662-HELP).



7. AIDS Information Hotline (1-800-342-AIDS).
8. National STD Hotline (1-800-227-8922).
9. Federal Drug, Alcohol and Crime Clearinghouse Network (1-800-788-2800).

## GLOSSARY OF TERMS

**Alcohol Event or Event** - Any event which includes serving alcoholic beverages to the participants of the event which occurs outside of the residence hall and which cannot be considered a private event (see term below) as governed by the ALCOHOL AND DRUG POLICY of Francis Marion University.

**Event Manager** - The person identified as the coordinator, manager, or responsible party of an individual or organization whose responsibilities include obtaining permission from the Provost or appropriate vice president to serve alcohol at an event. The event manager must be 21 years of age, agree to sign statement of understanding indicating their agreement not to use alcohol or drugs at least four hours prior to, or during the event for which they serve, and who refuses to use, transport or have in his/her possession any illegal substance during the course of the event for which they are in charge. The event manager will be the official representative of any individual, group and must comply with the entire ALCOHOL AND DRUG POLICY.

**Liquor** - Any intoxicating liquid, beverage or mixture that has been distilled or has an alcohol content greater than 14% by volume.

**Non-alcoholic beverage** - A beverage declared by statute to be nonalcoholic or non-intoxicating.

**Open Container** - Any holders or receptacles on which the manufacturer's seal has been broken, and/or holders that allow unobstructed, unrestricted, or otherwise open access to the alcohol. This includes, but is not limited to, any primary or secondary container to include: cans, cups, bottles, kegs, etc.

**Private Event** - Any event occurring in residence halls or student apartments which does not exceed the maximum occupancy according to fire codes and which adheres to all of Francis Marion University policies and procedures, including, but not limited to, the ALCOHOL AND DRUG POLICY.

**Server** - Any person who distributes/serves or otherwise dispenses alcohol as an official representative of the individual or organization sponsoring an event where alcohol has been approved as a beverage. Servers must meet minimum standards established by the ALCOHOL AND DRUG POLICY and be 21 years of age or older. Servers must not use alcohol or drugs at least four hours prior to, or during the event for which they serve.

**Third Party Vendor** - A company or business entity who is licensed or eligible to obtain licensing and/or appropriate permits for the sale of

alcohol, and who abides by state, local government, and University laws, rules, policies or guidelines concerning the sale and dispensing of alcoholic beverages. All third party vendors who wish to sell alcohol at any alcohol event must be approved by the appropriate University official.

## **Sexual Harassment**

Sexual harassment is unacceptable conduct and will not be tolerated. It may involve behavior of a person of either sex against a person of the opposite or same sex, when that behavior falls within the definition below. As a place of work and learning Francis Marion University must be free of all forms of sexual intimidation, exploitation and harassment. The University does not condone sexual harassment and individuals who engage in it are subject to disciplinary action. These actions may include, but are not limited to, oral or written warnings, demotions, transfers, suspension without pay, or dismissal for cause or sanction under the Student Code of Conduct. Sexual harassment is a form of sex discrimination, prohibited under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 for employees and under Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 for students. The South Carolina State Human Affairs Law also prohibits sex discrimination. Each dean, department chair, director, and supervisor is responsible for providing a work and educational environment free from sexual harassment.

**Definition:** Sexual harassment is defined as any unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, or other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature, when submission to such conduct is made either explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of an individual's employment or academic status, **or** submission to or rejection of such conduct is used as the basis for employment or academic decisions affecting that individual, **or** such conduct has the purpose or effect of unreasonable interference with an individual's work performance or educational experience, **or** creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive work or educational environment.

**Examples:** Prohibited acts take a variety of forms from subtle pressure for sexual activity to physical assault. Examples include, but are not limited to, threats or intimidation of sexual relations or sexual contact which are not freely or mutually agreeable to both parties; continued or repeated verbal abuses or comments of a sexual nature; and threats or insinuations that the person's employment, grade, wages, promotional opportunities, class or work assignments, may be adversely affected by not submitting to sexual advances.

**Procedure:** Any unwelcome behavior that may be construed as sexual harassment should be reported; however, willful false accusations will not be condoned. Inquiries about sexual harassment need not begin with a formal complaint or necessarily result in a complaint. Ques-

tions can be asked without disclosing specific details such as names and places. Any University employee who feels that she or he has been sexually harassed and who wishes further information or who wishes to file a complaint should contact the vice president for administration. Students should immediately contact the vice president for Student Affairs or the vice president for administration. Any faculty or staff member receiving a complaint of sexual harassment should seek the advice of the vice president for administration. No one may be subject to restraint, interference, coercion or reprisal for seeking information about sexual harassment, filing a sexual harassment complaint, or serving as a witness.

## **Student Evaluation of Course and Instructor**

Every semester students are provided the opportunity to evaluate each course and its instructor so that educational quality may be maintained and enhanced. All students are encouraged to respond to the evaluation with honesty, sincerity, and a sense of confidentiality.

The evaluation is administered during class time with the instructor leaving the room while a designated student hands out forms, collects forms, and then delivers the completed forms to the appropriate faculty secretary. These evaluations are completely anonymous and faculty members do not receive any feedback until grades have been turned in to the Registrar.

Upon noting that these procedures of evaluation have not been followed, a student may contact the Office of the Provost in order to confidentially inform the administration of such failure to follow procedures.

## **Assessment of Institutional Effectiveness**

Francis Marion University is committed to the continuous improvement of all its programs and services, all of which are intended to create the best possible learning environment for you, the student. To do this, we must constantly scan the environment for information that might be used to form our improvement decisions. You are our most valuable source of this information.

While attending FMU, you will be asked on many occasions to provide feedback to the University's various programs and activities. Your thoughtful and sincere responses are vital to our ability to make FMU better. As the most important member of the University community, you should view and accept this responsibility seriously. Your feedback is vital to the University's continuing success.

## DEFINITION OF TERMS

For the interpretation of all rules, regulations and policies of the University the following definitions shall be used unless otherwise indicated:

**Student:** A person enrolled for one or more hours of academic credit, or in a non-credit course or courses offered in the name of the University.

**Faculty Member:** A University employee whose job classification is “academic,” whether full-time or part-time.

**Administrator:** A University employee whose job classification is “administrative,” whether full-time, part-time, or contractual.

**Staff Member:** Any other University employee who is employed by the University on a full-time or part-time basis. In some circumstances this may apply to students who are employed by the University in leadership positions (e.g. Resident Assistants and other residence hall staff).

**University Official:** This term shall refer to any University employee (whether full-time or part-time, student or non-student) acting in his or her official capacity and within the bounds of his/her authority.

**Invitee:** A person who has official business at the University (e.g. delivery persons, construction workers, patients, student’s parents and/or guardians, etc.).

**Guest-Visitor:** A person invited by a University student or employee to visit the campus at a specific time, place and/or occasion. A person making repeated use of the University facilities and/or grounds shall not be considered a guest.

## BUILDING DIRECTORY

### Allard A. Allston Housing Office Complex

Director of Housing  
Study Hall  
Tutoring Center  
Coin-Operated Copier  
Vending Machines

### John K. Cauthen Educational Media Center

Classrooms and Labs  
Dooley Planetarium  
Education School  
Lowrimore Auditorium  
Language Labs  
Mass Communication Department  
Media Offices and Studios  
Modern Languages Department  
Psychology Department  
Teaching Materials Center  
Coin-Operated Copier  
Vending Machines

### Education Foundation and Non-Profit

**Consortium**  
Counseling and Testing  
Development/Foundation  
Student Health Services

### Edward S. Ervin III Dining Hall

Hendrick Dining Room  
Main Dining Room  
Palmetto Room  
President’s Dining Room  
Laundry Facility (attached)

### Founders Hall

Business School  
Classrooms and Labs  
Don E. Kelley Small & Minority Business Institute  
English Department  
History Department  
Political Science and Geography Department  
Sociology Department  
Writing Center  
Coin-Operated Copiers  
Vending Machines

**Forest Villas Apartment Complex**  
Student Housing

**Forest Villas Community Center**  
Common Lounge  
Fitness Room  
Laundry Facility  
Meeting/Study Area  
Student Mail Boxes  
Vending Machines

**The Grille**  
Dining Room  
Outdoor Porches  
Patio

**Peter D. Hyman Fine Arts Center**  
Art Galleries (3-D and 2-D)  
Art Studios  
Classrooms  
Fine Arts Department  
Piano Lab  
Recital Hall  
University Theatre  
Vending Machines

**Hugh K. Leatherman Science Facility**  
Biology Department  
Chemistry Department  
Classrooms and Labs  
Greenhouse  
Mathematics Department  
Physics Department  
Coin-Operated Copier  
Vending Machines

**Frank B. Lee Nursing Building**  
Barnes Clinical Laboratory  
Classrooms  
Computer Lab  
Nursing Department  
Seminar/Conference Rooms  
Thomason Auditorium  
Vending Machines  
Coin-Operated Copier

**Robert E. McNair Science Building**  
Auditorium  
Classrooms and Labs  
Lecture Halls  
Vending Machines

**Facilities Management/Campus Police Building**  
Campus Police Office  
Facilities Management  
Facilities Engineering and Maintenance  
Facilities Services and Support  
Lost and Found  
Motor Pool

**James A. Rogers Library**  
Approx. 400,000 volumes  
Arundel Room (rare books, local culture collection,  
and the University Archives)  
Computer Stations w/Internet access and  
word processing software  
Microforms  
Periodicals  
Public Telephones  
Coin-Operated Copiers  
Study Rooms

**Residence Halls**  
Student Housing

**Walter Douglas Smith University Center**  
Art Gallery (2-D)  
Athletics Department  
Campus Recreation Services  
Career Development  
Dean of Students  
International Student Affairs  
Multicultural Student Affairs  
Newspaper Office  
Classrooms  
Conference Rooms  
Equipment Checkout and Locker Rooms  
Fitness Room  
Gymnasium  
Patriot Bookstore  
Racquetball and Handball Courts  
Student Affairs  
Student Government Association  
Student Life  
Swimming Pool  
Training Room  
TV and Card Room  
ATM Machine  
Coin-Operated Copier  
Public Telephones  
Vending Machines

**Thomas C. Stanton Academic Computer Center**  
Classrooms  
Coin-Operated Copier  
Computer Labs  
Seminar Room

**J. Howard Stokes Administration Building**  
Accounting/Cashier  
Administration  
Admissions  
Alumni Affairs  
Attorney  
Auditor  
Business Affairs  
Chief Information Officer  
Community Relations  
Enrollment Management  
Financial Assistance  
Financial Services  
Graduate Studies  
Human Resources  
ROTC  
Telecommunications, Payroll and Inventory  
President  
Provost  
Public Affairs  
Purchasing  
Registrar  
Vending Machines

**Village Apartments**  
Student Housing

**Outside Recreational Areas**  
Cross-Country Course  
Clifford S. Cornell Baseball Field  
John Kassab Tennis Courts  
FMU Softball Field  
Intramural Fields  
Sand Volleyball Court  
Recreational Pool

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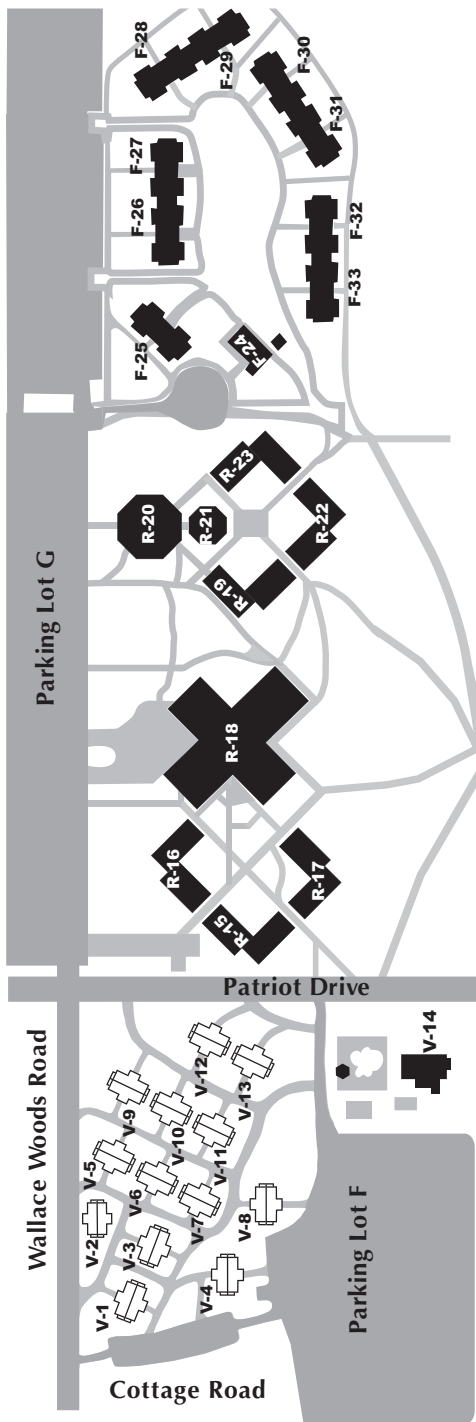


# Campus Housing

**V- denotes Village Apartments**

**R- denotes Residence Halls**

**F- denotes  
Forest Villas Apartments**



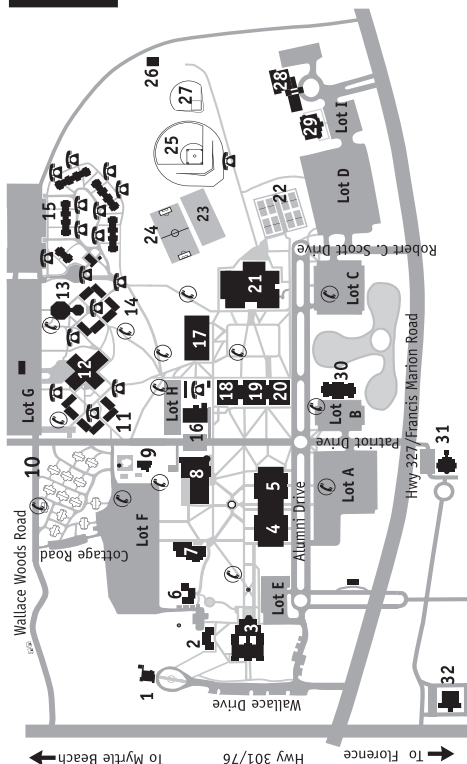
**V-1.** Moultrie  
**V-2.** Newton  
**V-3.** Logan  
**V-4.** Ervin  
**V-5.** Ingram  
**V-6.** Johnston  
**V-7.** Kidwell  
**V-8.** Dalton  
**V-9.** Ferguson

**V-10.** Gallingten  
**V-11.** Henderson  
**V-12.** Anderson  
**V-13.** Baxter  
**V-14.** The Grille, Outdoor Recreation Courts and Swimming Pool  
**R-15.** Swamp Fox  
**R-16.** Marion State

**R-17.** Palmetto  
**R-18.** Ervin Dining Hall  
**R-19.** Ellen C. Watson  
**R-20.** Housing Office  
**R-21.** Study Hall  
**R-22.** Snow Island  
**R-23.** Belle Isle  
**F-24.** Community Center  
**F-25.** Forest Villas O

**F-26.** Forest Villas P  
**F-27.** Forest Villas Q  
**F-28.** Forest Villas R  
**F-29.** Forest Villas S  
**F-30.** Forest Villas T  
**F-31.** Forest Villas U  
**F-32.** Forest Villas V  
**F-33.** Forest Villas W

# Francis Marion University Campus Map Florence, South Carolina



- ④ Emergency Call Boxes
- ☎ Access Phone

(Visitor Parking - All Lots)

17. Rogers Library
18. Leatherman Science Facility
19. McNair Science Building
20. Chapman Auditorium
21. Smith University Center (Gym, Patriot Bookstore)
22. Kassab Tennis Courts
23. Intramural Fields
24. Soccer Field
25. Cornell Baseball Field
26. Observatory
27. Softball Field
28. Center for the Child
29. Pee Dee Education Center
30. Lee Nursing Building
31. Baptist Collegiate Ministry
32. Education Foundation Building (Student Health Services/Office of Counseling and Testing)

1. President's Home (Wallace House)
2. Office Services (Printing Services, Mail Center)
3. Stokes Administration Building (Admissions Office)
4. Cauthen Educational Media Center (Dooley Auditorium, TV Studio, Lowmire Auditorium)
5. Founders Hall (Writing Center)
6. The Cottage
7. Stanton Academic Computer Center
8. Hyman Fine Arts Center (Theatre)
9. The Grille, Outdoor Recreation Courts and Swimming Pool
10. Student Housing (apartments)
11. Student Housing (dormitories)
12. Ervin Dining Hall
13. Alston Housing Office Complex (Study Hall, Tutoring Center)
14. Student Housing (dormitories)
15. Student Housing (apartments)
16. Campus Police & Facilities Management

80'90